


# BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT APPLICATION

## For Fiscal Year 2022

<p>Primary Applicant (Name and Address):</p> <p>Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services W7725 US Hwy 10 Ellsworth, WI 54011</p>	<p>Applications MUST be UPLOADED to ERF via the Commission's website, <a href="http://psc.wi.gov/apps35/ERF_upload/content/mymenu.aspx">http://psc.wi.gov/apps35/ERF_upload/content/mymenu.aspx</a>. Refer to section 2.3 for detailed instructions.</p> <p>Applications are due and MUST be uploaded to ERF no later than: <b>March 17, 2022</b> at 4:00pm (16:00) Central Time. <b>Late applications will not be accepted.</b></p>
	<p>Contact for further information: <a href="mailto:PSCStatebroadbandoffice@wisconsin.gov">PSCStatebroadbandoffice@wisconsin.gov</a></p>
	<p>Date: December 1, 2021</p>
<p>The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is seeking applications for Broadband Expansion Grants. The Commission may award one or more grants during Fiscal Year 2022 to public and private entities that meet the eligibility requirements set forth in Wis. Stat. § 196.504. This grant round will be funded with bond proceeds authorized by the Wisconsin Building Commission pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 13.48(30). As such, successful applicants are subject to the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 13.48(30). Successful applicants will demonstrate a clear and achievable plan to improve broadband communications services in one or more underserved areas in the State.</p>	
<p><b>Applicant Certification:</b> In signing this application, the undersigned verifies under penalty of perjury that the Applicant and its employees and agents have not, either directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement or participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competition with respect to this application; that no attempt has been made to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit an application; that this application has been independently arrived at without collusion with any other proposer, competitor or potential competitor; that this application has not been knowingly disclosed prior to the opening of applications to any other applicant or competitor; that all of the responses and representations of Applicant in this application are true and correct to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information, and belief; and that Applicant agrees to, accepts, and will comply with all of the terms and conditions respecting this application and any award of a broadband expansion grant as may be established in a grant award Agreement.</p>	
<p>Name of Authorized Representative (Type or Print)</p> <p>Nate Boettcher</p>	<p>Title</p> <p>President &amp; CEO</p>
	<p>Phone (    )</p> <p>715-273-2403</p>
<p>Signature of Authorized Representative</p> 	<p>Date</p> <p>March 16, 2022</p>

## SUMMARY OF GRANT APPLICATION

Primary Applicant Name Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services	Amount of Broadband Grant Request (round to nearest dollar) \$2,271,436
Federal Employer Identification No. 39-0539446	Amount of Matching Funds Pledged (round to nearest dollar) \$3,407,155
Contact Name and Title Nate Boettcher, President & CEO	Total Cost of Proposed Project (round to nearest dollar) \$5,678,591
Telephone Number (715) 273-2403	Project Name Town of Kinnickinnic
E-mail Address(es) nboettcher@piercepepin.coop	Type of Proposed Broadband Service (FTTH, Cable, DSL, etc.) FTTH
Grant Manager, if different than Primary Applicant N/A	Type of Proposed Project (Last-mile, Middle-Mile, backbone, other) Last Mile
Grant Manager Contact Name N/A	Grant Manager Email Address and Telephone Number N/A
If the application proposes a public-private partnership, list the names, addresses, and FEINs of the partner companies or organizations <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">           Town of Kinnickinnic (FEIN: 39-1434718 )            Attn: Axel Bogdan            1271 County Road J            River Falls, WI 54022            Ph: 715-425-8082         </div> <div style="width: 45%;">           St. Croix County (FEIN: 39-6005739)            Attn: Ken Witt            1101 Carmichael Road            Hudson, WI 54016            Ph: 715-381-4303         </div> </div>	
Brief Project Description (2 sentences) This project will provide Gigabit symmetrical speeds to the Town of Kinnickinnic located in St. Croix County. This project will build 110 miles of fiber to serve 640 locations.	
Maximum Proposed Download Transmission Speed 1000 Mbps (Gigabit)	Maximum Proposed Upload Transmission Speed 1000 Mbps (Gigabit)
Minimum Proposed Download Speed to Customer Location 100 Mbps	Minimum Proposed Upload Transmission Speed to Customer Location 100 Mbps

County or Counties served by this project <a href="#">St. Croix County</a>	Community or Communities served by this project <a href="#">Town of Kinnickinnic</a>
List of the broadband service providers, if any, currently serving the area the applicant proposes to serve  AT&T (DSL / Fixed Wireless), HughesNet Satellite, Viasat Satellite, T-Mobile Fixed Wireless, CenturyLink (DSL)	
Does proposed project serve an <a href="#">unserved</a> area of the State, as defined in <a href="#">Section 1.4</a> of the application instruction? (yes/no)  <a href="#">Yes</a>	Is the Applicant certified as a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community, or does the grant project propose to serve a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community? (yes/no)  <a href="#">Yes</a>
For last mile projects or component the expected number of Business Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total business locations passed or with new service access).  <a href="#">20</a>	For last mile projects or components the expected number of Residential Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total residential locations passed or with new service access).  <a href="#">620</a>
Of the improved business locations, how many locations are <i>unserved</i> ?  <a href="#">20</a>	Of the improved residential locations, how many are <i>unserved</i> ?  <a href="#">620</a>
For providers that are eligible telecommunications carriers will the proposed broadband service be available to Lifeline customers? (yes/no)  <a href="#">Yes</a>	Are there any programs available for low-income households to access low-cost service or discounts? (yes/no)  <a href="#">Yes</a>
Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program? (yes/no) <a href="#">Yes (application pending)</a>	Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Department of Public Instruction and CESA purchasing's Digital Learning Bridge? (yes/no)  <a href="#">No</a>
Did the internet service provider participate in the Public Service Commission's voluntary Broadband Coverage Data Collection in 2021? (yes/no) <a href="#">Yes</a>	

## Summary of Project Budget

### FY22 Broadband Expansion Grant Application Budget & Income Summary



Please complete this form using Microsoft Excel. A PDF copy must be attached to your application as page four. In addition, this form must also be uploaded to ERF in Excel format.

#### Grant Summary

Grant Applicant:	Project:

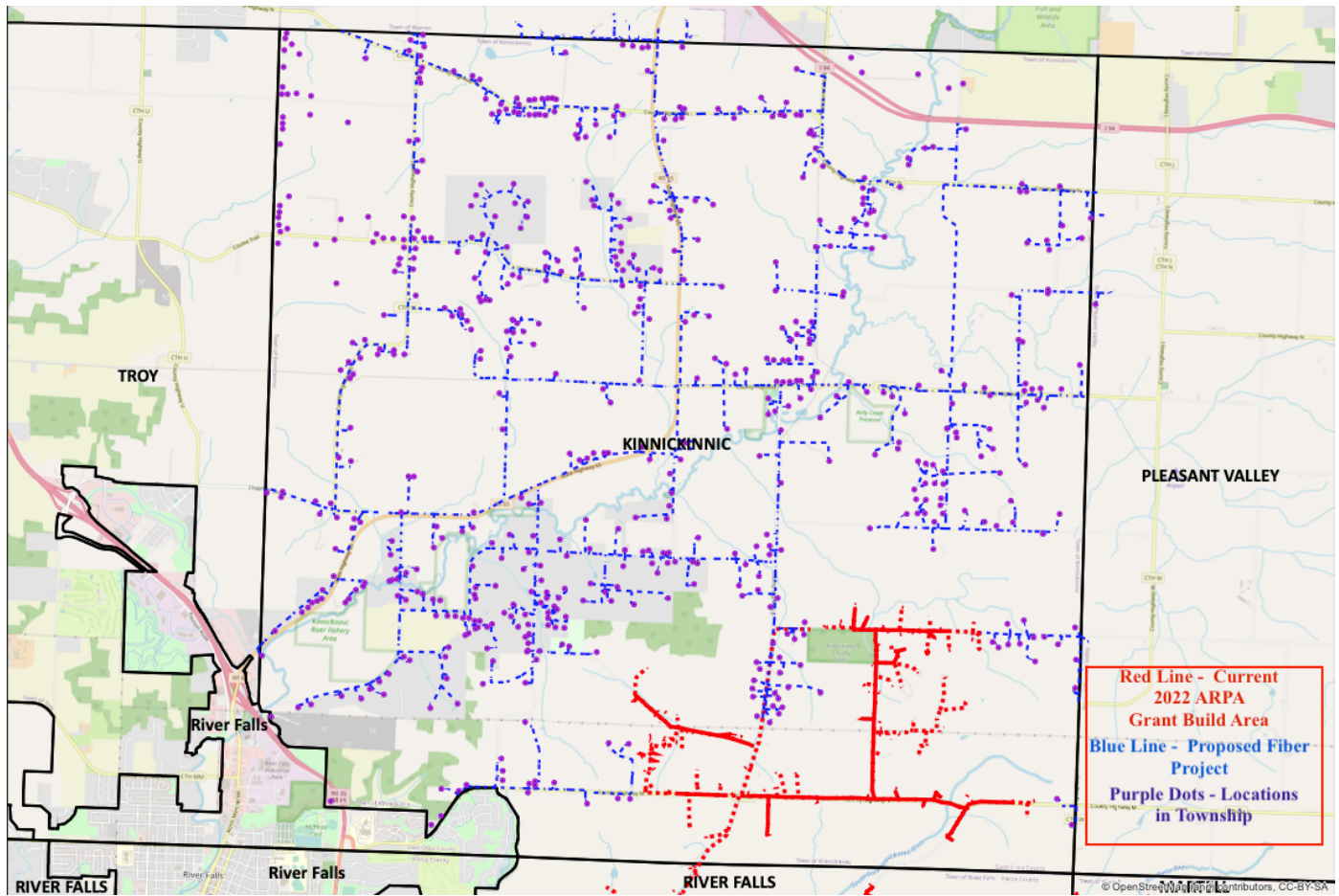
#### Budget

Line:	Description / Category:	Grant Funds:	Match:	Total:
1	Contractual, Consultant Fees	\$ 1,698,924.00	\$ 2,548,386.00	\$ 4,247,310.00
2	Equipment	\$ 553,712.00	\$ 830,569.00	\$ 1,384,281.00
3	Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4	Labor (Salary, Fringe)	\$ 13,400.00	\$ 20,100.00	\$ 33,500.00
5	Permitting, Licensing Fees	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
6	Travel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
7	Other	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 5,100.00	\$ 8,500.00
Total:		\$ 2,271,436.00	\$ 3,407,155.00	\$ 5,678,591.00
60.0% match requested				

#### Pledged Contributions

#:	Entity:	Entity Type:	Pledge Type:	Pledge:
1	St. Croix County	Partner	Cash	\$ 500,000.00
2	Town of Kinnickinnic	Partner	Cash	\$ 200,000.00
3	Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services	Applicant	Cash	\$ 2,707,155.00
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
Total:				\$ 3,407,155.00

## Project Map



Note: A spatial file of the project area map will be provided to the PSC as well.

## Executive Summary

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services (PPCS) is a member-owned electric cooperative, dedicated to helping its members Live Better<sup>®</sup>. In the 1930's this meant providing electricity to rural areas, today this means bringing rural broadband connectivity. Nearly 90 years after rural areas had been left behind with electricity, we've repeated the same mistake with rural broadband until now.

In 2021, PPCS launched SwiftCurrent Connect, a wholly owned subsidiary to provide fiber to the home services for 5,500 homes and businesses. The PPCS board set a lofty goal of building over 800 miles of fiber by 2025. In the Spring of 2021, the WI Public Service Commission awarded two grants to PPCS to connect 475 services. PPCS utilize this foundation to expand its presence and pass by 1,500 homes and build 175 miles. Last Fall, PPCS was awarded funding to connect 2,400 homes and build 466 miles of fiber. The proposed application takes the next step in building fiber in western Wisconsin by connecting an additional 640 homes and businesses in the Town of Kinnickinnic.

Our application is supported by a public-private partnership with the Town of Kinnickinnic and St. Croix County. This impressive partnership has provided the application with \$700,000 of public support. The support for this application goes beyond a financial commitment. Over the past year, both the County and the Town have worked to better understand the needs of their communities. In the Fall of 2021, St. Croix County authorized a broadband study to help drive a path forward. The County board took decisive action and authorized \$1.5 million in grants to help build fiber along with issuing \$1.5 million in connectivity grants for residents.

Likewise, the Town of Kinnickinnic has been working with its residents on bringing high-speed broadband to their community. The Town formed a special task force charted with better understanding a path to bring universal broadband coverage to residents. The Town sent a survey out to its residents and received nearly 400 responses. A copy of this survey has been included in the supporting material. There are some interesting data points that help support the application. Nearly 84% of respondents say current internet speed does not meet their needs. Overwhelmingly, 98% of residents support the actions of the Town to actively pursue additional broadband options.

Last Fall, the Town of Kinnickinnic entertained several options for partnering with a local internet service provider. PPCS is proud to say that after several meetings, discussions, and exchanges of ideas, the Town selected PPCS as their partner. As a member-owned electric cooperative, we know our neighbors because they are our family, friends, and co-workers. Our broadband company is owned by our members and is headquartered in the area we serve. We exist for one reason, to "Empower our Members to Live Better." As part of our work with the community we are working closing to improve digital literacy and have included this as part of our application.

Upon a successful selection by the WI PSC, the project will kick off in the Fall of 2022 with project planning and any make-ready engineering work that needs to be completed. Construction will begin in the Spring of 2023 with the goal of beginning service drops by the Fall of 2023 and final completion of the project in the Spring of 2024.

We cordially ask the WI PSC to select our project for an award, in doing so we will continue to bridge this digital divide and continue the progress in making sure every Wisconsinite has access to high-speed broadband services through fiber optic connectivity.

### 3.0 Application Narrative

#### 3.2.1 Applicant identification and contact information

- a. The name and address of the entity applying for the grant, and the mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address of one or more contact persons representing the applicant.

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services  
W7725 US Hwy 10  
Ellsworth, WI 54011

Primary Contact:  
Nate Boettcher, President & CEO  
W7725 US Hwy 10  
Ellsworth, WI 54011  
1-715-273-4355  
[nboettcher@piercepepin.coop](mailto:nboettcher@piercepepin.coop)

- b. If the application proposes a public-private partnership, the identity and contact information for all application partners.

Town of Kinnickinnic  
Attn: Axel Bogdan  
1271 County Road J  
River Falls, WI 54022  
Ph: 715-425-8082  
E-Mail: [kinnisupervisor1@icloud.com](mailto:kinnisupervisor1@icloud.com)

St. Croix County  
Attn: Ken Witt  
1101 Carmichael Road  
Hudson, WI 54016  
Ph: 715-381-4303  
E-Mail: [Ken.Witt@sccwi.gov](mailto:Ken.Witt@sccwi.gov)

Exhibit A and B provide copies of the partnership agreements for these projects from the Town of Kinnickinnic and St. Croix.

- c. The application must show that the applicant is an organization, a telecommunications utility, or a city, village, town, or county that has established a legal partnership or joint venture arrangement with an otherwise qualified organization or telecommunications utility, and as such meets the eligibility requirements set forth in Wis. Stat. § 196.504(1).

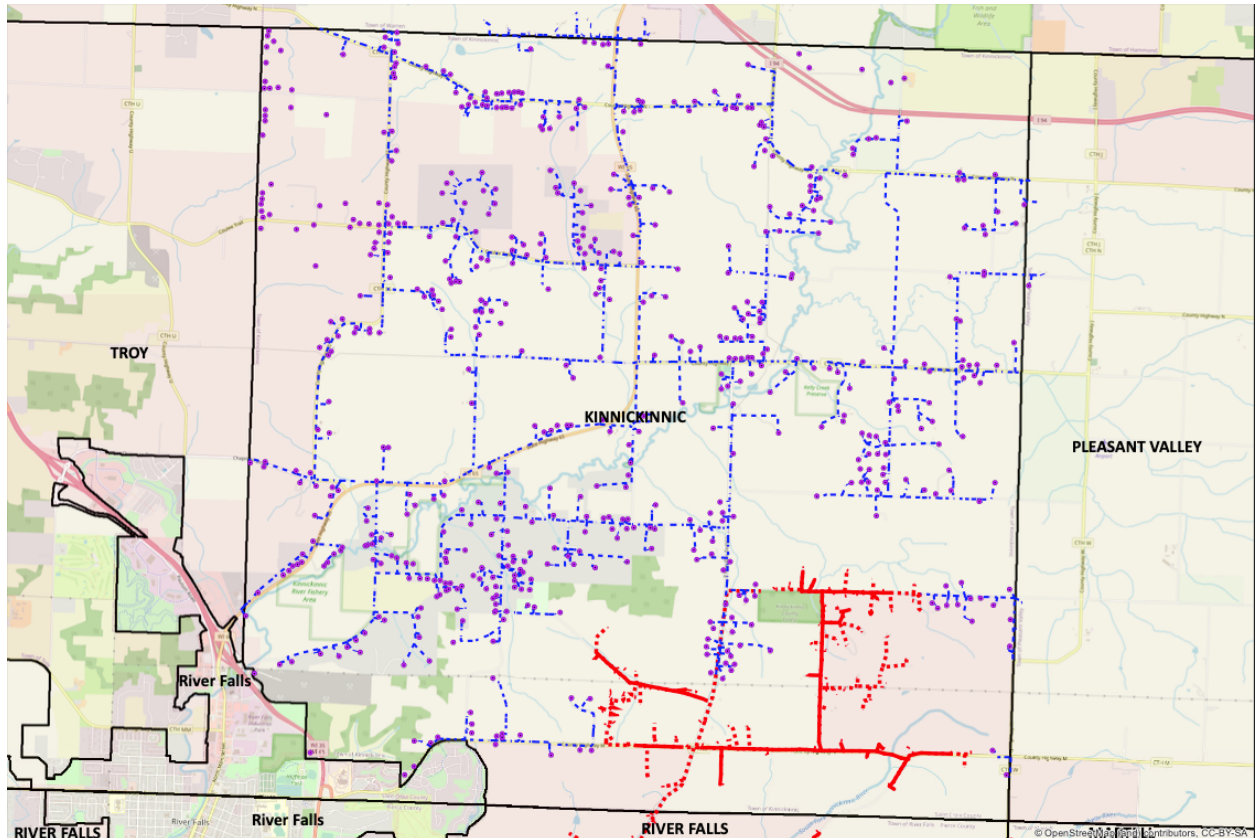
Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services, herein "PPCS", is a not-for-profit cooperative, organized in the State of Wisconsin, County of Pierce, Town of Trimble and meets the eligibility requirements of Wis. Stat. § 196.504(1). PPCS was first incorporated in 1937 as Pierce County Rural Electric Cooperative, the name was later changed to Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services in 1999.



### 3.2.2 Description of the project

- a. A static map and description of the area of the State that will be affected by the proposed project.

The Town of Kinnickinnic is located to the northeast of River Falls largely between US Interstate 94 and Highway 29 to the north and south. The Town is situated in St. Croix County. Approximately 1,800 residents live in the Town with the city of Hudson and River Falls within 10 – 15 minutes. These two cities make up 30% of Pierce and St. Croix County populations. The Town is approximately 15 minutes from the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area.

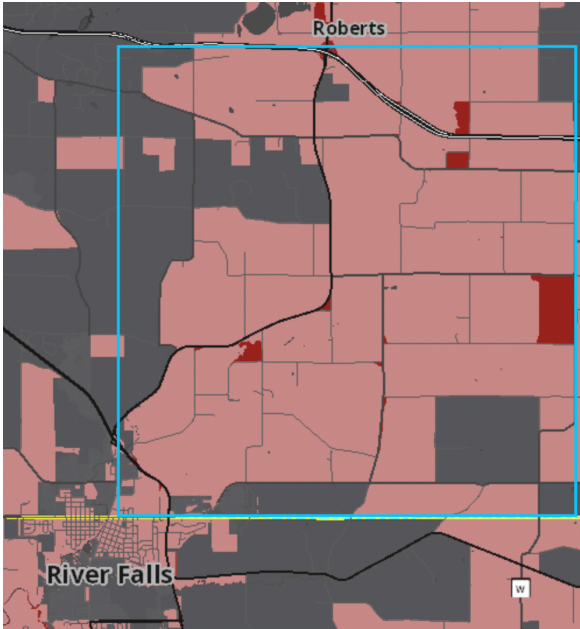


The first phase as indicated by the red lines are being completed as part of the ARPA grants awarded to PPCS in the Fall of 2021. The remaining Town that is underserved and unserved, shown in blue, is being proposed in this application. Some additional homes exist in the Town are labeled on the map where service may be provided by other carriers.

- b. If the project area lies within a census block designated as served on the PSC Broadband Map, provide additional documentation to demonstrate the actual broadband service that is available in the proposed project area.

There is little to no overlap with actual served areas as defined by the grant application by wireline providers. As noted below there are satellite and fixed wireless providers that are providing limited service. Where overlap may exist, PPCS has been prudent in eliminating those areas and not overbuilding.





Note: The approximate boundaries for the Town of Kinnickinnic are shown in blue.

- c. An explanation of how the proposed project will increase broadband access. Include information about the: Potential and expected number of households served, including number of unserved and underserved locations. Potential and expected number of businesses served, including number of unserved and underserved locations. Expected number of seasonal residents and tourists served. Estimated download and upload speed of the broadband service packages available for purchase.

There are 640 locations that will be served because of this project application along with 110 locations that are being served by the approved ARPA project. We estimate there are approximately 20 business locations in this application, however in many cases residential addresses include many home-based businesses that are not always visibly present. As noted in the Town of Kinnickinnic survey nearly 74% of the residents could work from home but are unable to because of the lack of broadband. A number of these residents often commute to larger metro areas including into the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. Tourism does not play a large part in the overall picture of the Town, but the proximity of River Falls and Hudson create opportunities for the Town of Kinnickinnic to benefit from expanded growth.

Service offerings will provide Gigabit symmetrical service (1000/1000 Mbps) with the possibility of offering 5 Gigabit services in the future. Service plans offered include a 100/100 Mbps plan. Plans range from \$69.95 to \$124.95 with optional phone service available as well. Symmetrical service is being proposed which greatly enhances the ability for customers to have quality download and upload speeds. Those working from home depend upon a quality upload speed which is often overlooked by asymmetrical providers.

- d. A statement whether the proposed project is targeting the “last mile,” “middle mile,” or backbone portion of the broadband infrastructure.

This project will provide last mile service.

- e. A description of the broadband service to be provided, including estimated download and upload speeds, whether the speed is based on dedicated or shared bandwidth, and the technology that will be used. This description may be illustrated by a map or schematic diagram, as appropriate.

<i><b>Packages</b></i>	<i><b>Download Speed</b></i>	<i><b>Upload Speed</b></i>
<i><b>Gigabit</b></i>	<i>1,000 Mbps</i>	<i>1,000 Mbps</i>
<i><b>Ultra</b></i>	<i>250 Mbps</i>	<i>250 Mbps</i>
<i><b>Advanced</b></i>	<i>100 Mbps</i>	<i>100 Mbps</i>
<i><b>Qualified Income</b></i>	<i>50 Mbps</i>	<i>50 Mbps</i>
<i><b>Voice Service</b></i>	<i>Local + Long Distance Included</i>	<i>Local + Long Distance Included</i>

\*Qualified Income plans utilize qualifications based on LIHEAP based programs. PPCS has a pending application for Affordable Connectivity Program which will provide \$30 discount.

At minimum, this project provides 100/100 Mbps symmetrical service to every home and business in the proposed application area. PPCS is the sole owner of all network equipment and is responsible for all maintenance and upgrade of the equipment. PPCS will also provide local support and service to customers. The outside plant fiber network will be underground and aerial construction that generally follows an existing electric distribution network. The core fiber transmission will primarily utilize 144 count fiber utilizing a distributed tap model.

### ***Network Architecture and Design***

Distributed tap networks are appropriate for rural networks and reduces the amount of fiber to serve rural areas especially in situations where long distances need to be covered. In addition, for most rural areas, the lack of density will not dramatically change which means the tap architecture serves the purpose today and into the future. This is an example of cost-saving measures that allow the PPCS to build more fiber for less investment.

PPCS provides services utilizing Passive Optical Networking (PON) architecture. Internet service tiers will include offerings of symmetrical 100/100 Mbps, 250/250 Mbps and 1/1 Gbps, also expressed as 1000/1000 Mbps. It should be noted existing service by other providers in this area largely do not provide synchronous service. All locations will have low latency access and scalability for the future. This project meets the needs of the future, not just increasing speeds or providing a stopgap option. The outside plant fiber optic network is designed to support all current versions of PON network technology, including:

XGS-PON supporting 10 Gbps downstream and upstream (Current Focus)

NG-PON2 supporting 80 Gbps downstream and upstream. (Future Availability as Needed)

These technologies are supported without the need for any outside plant construction or modification. Future expectations include vendors development of 100 Gbps PON technology that would be compatible with the fiber optic network.

PPCS works in partnership with Conexon, who specializes in working with electric cooperatives to design, install, activate, and maintain Fiber to the Home (FTTH) networks. Conexon's established relationships with existing telecom service providers allows for real world network metrics, documented later, to establish baseline metrics for the network build to be undertaken. Based on the metrics provided by Conexon from their 5 years of experience and over 30,000 miles of network

design, achievement of Gigabit symmetrical service is currently in production using this architecture. Distributed Optical Tap architecture for last mile fiber build is utilized.

- PON design limit of 24 optical tap ports per PON leg
- 86.45% utilization of optical tap ports per PON leg
- 70% penetration of data service over a 5-year period

Note: The terms homes, subscriber, Optical Network Terminal (ONT), and “tap port” are generally interchangeable in reference to the network or network build in this document. All terms typically indicated a fiber termination point which exists to provide network access to a single end subscriber, home, small business, or other physical location.

A PON leg is defined as a single fiber optic strand of glass leaving the telecommunications hut, also referenced as a fiber hut, to provide last mile connectivity to a shared group of homes or businesses with a designed maximum of 32 serviceable locations. Due to the fixed port configuration of a distributed tap architecture where taps come in 2, 4, and 8 port version, it is generally difficult to design a network that fully utilizes a maximum of 32 optical splits. Conexon design specifications dictate a maximum of 24 tap ports per PON leg to accommodate future tap deployment if new homes dictate.

The overall network architecture not only takes advantage of the latest technology but also allows future scalability as both premises and data speeds increase. The use of fiber optic cable does is not limited by capacity of the cable and electronics can be upgraded over time. For this application, the proposed technology and build will be more than sufficient to serve 100% connectivity of every home.

- f. For middle mile projects: Identify last mile broadband service providers that will connect to the middle mile facility.

Not Applicable

- g. A schedule by which the applicant intends to complete the components of the proposed project. The project period is up to 24 months.

Milestone Events	Project Period
Project Kickoff (Assumes mid to late summer 2022 award)	October 2022
Network Design, Construction Planning, Make Ready Engineering	October 2022 – December 2022
Make Ready Construction	January 2023 – March 2023
Main Line Construction Build	March 2023 – August 2023
Fiber Drops / Home Installs	September 2023 – April 2024
Project close out	April 2024

### 3.2.3 Itemized Budget

- a. In addition to the Summary of Project Budget that is included as page 3, applicants should include a price list or quote for any equipment the applicant intends to purchase, including capital expenditures. The application should also indicate whether any facilities involved would be owned, rented, or leased.

Exhibit G includes a bill of materials. The entire project and plant will be owned by PPCS. Pricing is subject to signed non-disclosure agreements; however, pricing verification can be provided to the PSC under separate cover if redacted.

Category	Description	Cost	Additional Notes
Contractual, Consultant	Mainline Construction, Drop Construction, Design, Project Management Oversight, Consultant Work, Splicing	\$4,247,310	Includes home install costs, splicing, fiber construction units, and all consulting assistance with project management, oversight, design, etc.
Equipment	Electronics for Hut	\$90,000	Additional electronics support GPON network, also includes new telecom hut
	Construction Materials	\$1,384,281	Construction materials, fiber, strand, conduit, splice cases, pedestals, etc.
Labor	PPCS Salaries for Project	\$33,500	Fiber technician, project manager, network operations manager
Permitting, Licensing Fees	Various state, local and county fees, including road crossing permits	\$5,000	
Other	Community enrichment	\$8,500	Educational programs, outreach, training, and assistance programs to get residents connected.

The budget is based off building 110 miles of underground service and connecting 640 homes. The average cost per mile is approximately \$51,546. There has been an upward trend in material and labor cost associated with recent inflation data. Contracted labor accounts for \$4.247 million of the total costs. This includes such things as mainline construction labor, splicing, and drop crews. We anticipate locating a new telecom hut for this project. The hut costs including electronics are approximately \$90,000. PPCS plans to utilize some of its own labor which makes up \$33,500 of the project costs. Materials make up \$1.384 million in total costs. This includes conduit, fiber, vaults, pedestals, and miscellaneous materials for construction. This project will use 144-ct fiber to ensure future expansion and availability will be available in the area. The budget includes \$5,000 for miscellaneous permitting and license fees. The remaining \$8,500 is to be used for outreach and educational programs, along with digital literacy programs that may be offered in coordination with the Town of Kinnickinnic.

- b. The application must show that the grant, if awarded, will not subsidize the expenses of a telecommunications provider or the monthly bills of telecommunications customers. For purposes of this grant program, subsidize means a contribution to the operating costs, including profit, of the telecommunications provider.

The project will not be used to subsidize any expenses of the provider or PPCS customers. All project expenses will go directly to support the construction, fiber, and electronics used to deliver service.

- c. The application must show that the grant funds requested will be used for the sole purpose of constructing broadband infrastructure in the underserved areas covered by the application. Construction of broadband infrastructure may include any of the following:
- Project planning that takes place during the performance period.
  - Obtaining construction permits.
  - Construction of facilities, including construction of both “middle mile” and “last mile” infrastructure.
  - Installation and testing of the broadband service.

The total project budget includes labor for construction and installation, network design and planning, easement/application work, and drops to the premise. Please note, the project budget does not include any work to upgrade existing facilities such as power poles, improving clearances, or right of way maintenance work such as brush clearing, tree trimming, etc.

### 3.2.4 Priority factors supporting the application

- a. **Matching funds.** A description of the matching funds the applicant will invest in the proposed project, if any. For each element, indicate the type of match (cash, salary expense, or in-kind contribution). If the application is submitted by a partnership, identify the partner responsible for providing each element of the proposed matching funds. *Note: The requirement for this information is satisfied via inclusion of the completed Funding Statement as page 4 of the application.*
- If available, provide documentation to support an offer of matching funds (minutes of a town board meeting, a letter from a prospective customer or local government official, etc.).
  - Matching funds contributions must be a firm commitment of funding to the project. Contributions that vary based on the amount of actual sales, customer contributions, or other criteria will not be given weight.

The budget summary is included. Partnership letters from the Town of Kinnickinnic and St. Croix County are included in Exhibit A and B.

- b. **Public-private partnerships.** If the public-private partnership is memorialized in a joint venture agreement or other writing, provide a copy of that agreement. If the partnership has not been reduced to a written agreement, provide a short description of the management role, financial commitment, or other contribution to the project for each participating partner.

- In scoring this element, information regarding active engagement of diverse communities in the planning, permitting, or marketing of the project will be given weight as well.

St. Croix County has provided a letter of support for their financial contribution. Town of Kinnickinnic has signed and provided a resolution that supports their partnership with PPCS.

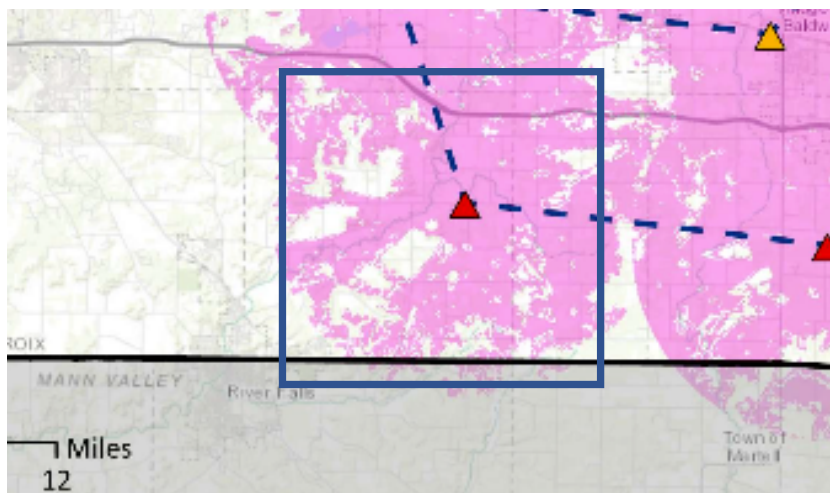
In 2021, St. Croix County engaged with a consultant to review broadband availability and opportunities in the county. The full report can be found here:

<https://www.sccwi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7182/st-croix-county-broadband-study>

The findings of the report included a survey of community members with over 5,000 respondents participating. 90% of those who completed the survey want faster and more reliable service and 52% stated they are currently unhappy with their service. The consultant that was hired highlighted several key strategies including:

- Develop partnerships with ISPs
- Create public/private partnerships
- Develop a long-term funding solution

It's worth noting the consultant that provided the information to St. Croix County spent a considerable amount of time discussing fixed wireless solutions. The consultant devoted an entire section of the report to go through wireless technology, poles, and opportunities. The most glaring pieces of this detailed conversation was the map that was provided on Page 105 of the report. A smaller, more focused snapshot of this is included below which points out the challenge of Fixed Wireless in the Town of Kinnickinnic. Even if with a tower located in the town, approximately half of the township is unserved.



Note: Fixed wireless propagation study by St. Croix Consultant, snapshot of the Town of Kinnickinnic

In addition, the report spends just one paragraph discussing terrain challenges on Page 93, noting that there may be a difficulty in receiving a line of sight to a fixed wireless tower. We would add that line of sight is not only a challenge but a major barrier to customer adoption. Customers should not have to cut down trees or erect their own radio tower to obtain line of sight, nor should they suffer from the challenges of radio signals to provide high-speed bandwidth during congestion and bad weather. These are just some of the challenges that occur with fixed wireless.

The county has taken the first step in putting forth funds to support the expansion of broadband. We are thankful the county supported our application and valued the partnership that we have formed with the Town of Kinnickinnic. The Town of Kinnickinnic created a broadband taskforce to explore opportunities in their Town. Residents were surveyed regarding their general attitude towards broadband. The results of those surveys are included in Exhibit I.

Maybe more telling is the comment that Town Chair Jerry Olson stated, “There are not many things’ people will show up with pitchforks over, but broadband is definitely one of them.” The appetite for broadband is high, but the ability for Towns like Kinnickinnic to do alone is challenging. The partnership with PPCS accomplishes the goals of the community, but more importantly as an organization owned by the community, it ensures their long-term partnerships to ensure success.

c. **Existing broadband service.** A list of the broadband service providers, if any, currently serving the area the applicant proposes to serve. In scoring this element, the following factors will be taken into account:

- The degree to which the proposed project avoids duplicating existing broadband infrastructure.
- The application of a wireless broadband service provider proposing significant overlap with existing broadband service in addition to service to an unserved area will not be given priority consideration.
- Provide a list of all landline broadband service providers (DSL, cable or fiber to the home) and fixed wireless broadband service providers that overlap the footprint of the proposed broadband project.
- If known, provide an estimate of the customers within the proposed footprint that are served by competing landline and fixed wireless broadband service providers, and the download/upload speeds offered by those competing service providers.
- Provide a list of mobile wireless broadband service providers that overlap the footprint of the proposed project.
- If known, provide an estimate of the customers within the proposed footprint that are served by competing mobile wireless broadband service providers, and the download/upload speeds offered by those competing service providers. (The presence of existing mobile wireless providers does not contribute to or affect the evaluation of existing broadband service in the project area for purposes of priority consideration, but provides a more complete picture of the broadband options available to residents.)
- For middle mile projects, describe the unserved and underserved areas that the middle mile route will transit. In scoring this element, the following factors will be taken into account:
  - The number of unserved and underserved service locations that could potentially connect through the proposed middle mile route.

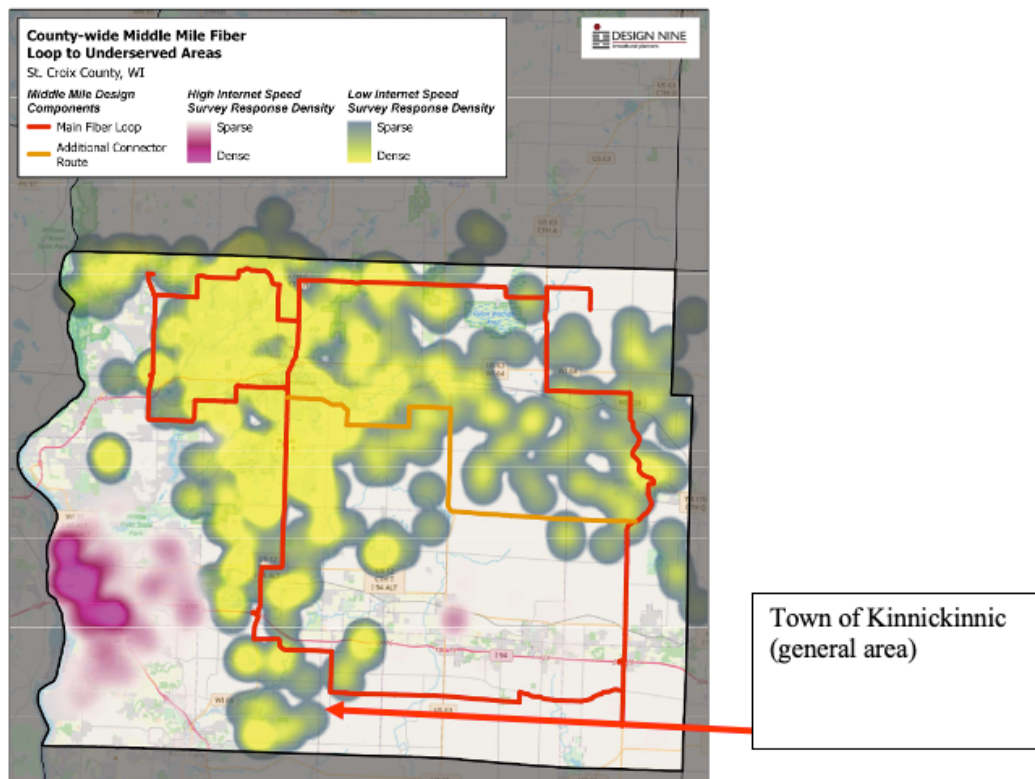


- The degree to which the middle mile route will reduce the cost of extending fiber to the premises broadband service to business and residential service locations in an unserved or underserved area.
- The degree to which the proposed middle mile route avoids duplicating existing and planned fiber to the premises broadband infrastructure.

The bulk of the project area is considered underserved with a few areas that are considered unserved. Availability of providers with Fixed Wireless is not reflective of availability. Line of sight topography challenges along with dense tree cover make it nearly impossible for most homes to use fixed wireless services.

Provider	Reported Speed	Type
AT&T	10/1 Mbps	Fixed Wireless
Nexterra	50/50 Mbps	Fixed Wireless
T-Mobile	25/3 Mbps	Fixed Wireless
HughesNet	25/3 Mbps	Satellite
Viasat	100/3 Mbps	Satellite
CenturyLink	10/.75 Mbps	DSL
AT&T	6/1 Mbps	DSL

As noted in the St. Croix County consultant report, the Town of Kinnickinnic fared poorly with speed tests with most of its areas being included in the Low Internet Speed Density.



The Town of Kinnickinnic also asked a question regarding internet speed on their survey that was focused on what the advertised speed was the resident was subscribing to. The data suggests that only about 15% are receiving greater than 25 Mbps service and just over 2% are receiving better than 100 Mbps. The data provided to the FCC regarding existing service is quite unreliable as it relates to mapping actual broadband coverage. The FCC has acknowledged but has yet to provide results of its updated mapping project. Our maps include where there is marginal overlap on areas considered served.

- d. **Project impact.** A description of the geographic area and the population, both in terms of absolute numbers and likely users, which will be served by the proposed project. Indicate the number of anticipated residential and business customers in the project area, if known. Explain the speed and quality of internet service that will be available. Include information about the range of packages available for purchase. Provide details on any low-income access programs and steps the project will take to support adoption.

The Town of Kinnickinnic is home to over 1,800 residents and 750 locations. The area is largely residential, but there is a mixture of farms, home-based businesses, and other small businesses located in the town. This project proposes symmetrical gigabit level service.

<i>Packages</i>	<i>Download Speed</i>	<i>Upload Speed</i>	<i>Monthly Cost</i>
<b><i>Gigabit</i></b>	<i>1,000 Mbps</i>	<i>1,000 Mbps</i>	<i>\$124.95</i>
<b><i>Ultra</i></b>	<i>250 Mbps</i>	<i>250 Mbps</i>	<i>\$99.95</i>
<b><i>Advanced</i></b>	<i>100 Mbps</i>	<i>100 Mbps</i>	<i>\$69.95</i>
<b><i>Qualified Income</i></b>	<i>50 Mbps</i>	<i>50 Mbps</i>	<i>\$29.95</i>
<b><i>Voice Service</i></b>	<i>Local + Long Distance Included</i>	<i>Local + Long Distance Included</i>	<i>\$24.95</i>

Qualified Income plans utilize qualifications based on LIHEAP based programs. PPCS has a pending application for Affordable Connectivity Program which will provide \$30 discount if approved. Often the barrier to connectivity is the cost of service and the equipment needed to connect. The findings of Wisconsin Broadband Taskforce spend a considerable amount of time outlining these barriers. As a member-owned cooperative, PPCS works with broadband customers to reduce these barriers including providing technical assistance, spreading the cost of connection fees across multiple billing cycles, and working with community organizations to help provide both new and recycled equipment. No customer should be excluded from having access to connectivity when these barriers can be removed proactively and with community partnership.

- e. **Scalability.** A description of how the proposed project could expand or improve the broadband service it delivers, while maintaining the quality of its broadband service. This description should include specific projected increases in the following parameters that are known at the time of the application:
- The number of users.
  - The number of network nodes.
  - The number of services provided.
  - The geographic area served by the project.

- The number of aggregation points in middle mile project.

This description may also include a discussion of possible growth potential that is outside the commitment the applicant is making as part of its application.

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services utilizes electric infrastructure to strategically make investments in the buildout of broadband. Electric cooperatives have a thorough understanding of the areas they serve and the locations that may require high-speed internet. Where electricity provides service to a location, that location is a candidate for broadband. PPCS is embarking on a 2022 project that will touch into the southern portion of the Town of Kinnickinnic. The backbone of this build is being served by a telecom hut located at the PPCS substation south of River Falls on Hwy 65. This hut has redundant 10GB upstream data services from two different providers on two different paths.

This project is scheduled to implement a new telecom hut located in the Town that will serve two purposes. The number of subscribers, number of miles, and growth potential create a situation where long-term capacity may be a concern without this hut. Secondly, we believe that it strengthens the overall network and reduces potential down time since this hut will be placed into a network ring topology. It's highly likely that over the next 10 years the amount of growth in this area would dictate an improved network. The design and the use of 144-ct fiber allows for future expansion without any sort of concern over network congestion or limitations. Our goal is to build fiber once and be prepared to utilize it in the future.

f. **Economic development.** A description of how the proposed project will promote job growth or retention, expand the property tax base or improve the overall economic vitality of the municipality or region. This description may be supplemented with a letter from one or more persons discussing the potential economic impact the project could have for that individual or business. In scoring this element, the following factors will be taken into account:

- A discussion of potential economic impact the project could have for an individual business located in the project area.
- An explanation of how an improved download and upload transmission speed could better support a specific business in the project area.
- An explanation of the likely impact improved broadband service could have on residential property values, supported by local sales data if available.
- A demonstration of how improved broadband service to a residential portion of the project could benefit a telecommuting population.
- A demonstration of how the speeds and service being offered by the project fits with current and future economic needs of the community and local businesses.

Today this area is primarily a residential and agriculturally based area. However, as noted earlier, this area consistently sees prime growth as the communities of River Falls and Hudson grow. A major barrier for any new development whether it be commercial or residential will be the lack of broadband. In areas that are well-served by fiber, growth has and will continue to occur. The reason that many people live in the Town of Kinnickinnic is because of its proximity to the Twin Cities metro, River Falls, and Hudson, but it's still a rural area and because of that lacks connectivity.

As noted in the project impact, this is also an agricultural area that is primarily involved with livestock, crops, and dairy. Advances in precision ag, telemetry and innovations on the farm will continue to require new bandwidth needs that will overpower existing infrastructure.

The impact of broadband is also demonstrated in home prices and property valuation. Two studies provide context for this:

Research and Policy INsights – Estimation of the Net Benefits of Indiana Statewide Adoption of Rural Broadband ; Larry DeBoer, Alison Grant, Wallace E. Tyner <https://pcrd.purdue.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/006-RPINsights-Indiana-Broadband-Study.pdf>

Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband”, September 18 2019NTIA Broadband USA Webinar Series; [https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/webinar\\_190918#contententarea](https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/webinar_190918#contententarea)

In support of this application, Kristin Dykstra Thompson stated, *“In addition to work and schooling, we utilize internet for volunteerism – my husband serves on the church finance committee which meets via Zoom – as well as medical appointments. Our increased needs are not being met, which creates concern about the viability of continuing to live in our home and community. We also have concerns about marketability of our home due to lack of internet options.”* This comment was reiterated many times over.

In another letter from of support from Lucas Woodland, he stated, *“My wife is an entrepreneur and relies on the Internet to network, communicate with and educate her clients through social media. Her productivity and efficiency have been greatly impacted due to the act that our internet service is terrible.”*

There is a cost and economic impact to these stories and even more so there is a cost in not doing something about these challenges. When communities have fiber optic broadband, they thrive, grow, and provide better stability. Families live in these areas because they often are looking for a rural quality of life. Twenty years ago, they may have been willing to sacrifice some of the urban amenities, but these are no longer options as work, school, and entertainment are increasingly dependent on a connection.

- g. **Effect upon broadband service to adjacent areas.** A description of whether the proposed project will or will not impair the ability of a broadband service provider or competing broadband service provider to extend broadband service to areas adjacent to the proposed project area.

This project does infringe upon other types of broadband services from competing for these customers.

### 3.2.5 Other information supporting the application

- a. A description of applicant’s history or experience constructing broadband communications facilities in the State and elsewhere.
- If applicable, an applicant must comment upon the status of all prior broadband expansion grant projects, including the type of broadband technology used, the

facility route actually built or installed, the number of residential and business customers actually connected, and other relevant details of the prior project(s).

- An applicant may also comment on broadband construction projects undertaken in prior years that were not funded in part by the Broadband Expansion Grant program.

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services officially launched a broadband subsidiary in 2021. The 2021 WI PSC broadband grants provided the initial opportunity for PPCS to participate in the broadband expansion grants.

PPCS has two main goals of building fiber. The first is to bring broadband service in an area that needs connectivity. The second is to build a fiber backbone to electric distribution substations for the purpose of building the next generation grid. This area is served by both Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services and St. Croix Electric Cooperative. Both cooperatives are members of Dairyland Power Cooperative and rely on advances in distribution automation and smart grid technologies. Improving fiber connectivity not only benefits homes and business by providing high-speed internet, but it helps improve the electric grid.

PPCS has partnered with Conexon based out of Kansas City, Missouri. Conexon works exclusively with rural electric cooperatives to bring fiber to the home in rural communities. The company is comprised of professionals who have worked in electric cooperatives and the telecommunications industry, and offer decades of individual experience in business planning, building networks, marketing and selling telecommunications. Conexon offers electric cooperative client's end-to-end broadband deployment and operations support, from a project's conception all the way through to its long-term sustainability. They have worked with clients to analyze economic feasibility, secure financing, design the network, manage construction, provide operational support, optimize business performance, and determine optimal partnerships. To date, Conexon has assisted nearly 200 electric cooperatives, approximately 100 of which are deploying fiber networks. Their work with clients has resulted in nearly 150,000 connected fiber-to-the-home subscribers across the U.S., and the company has secured more than a quarter of a billion dollars in federal and state grants for its clients. At the current rate, Conexon is building 2,500 miles per month and connecting 15,000 subscribers. The relationship PPCS has with Conexon will ensure project success.

#### **Wisconsin PSC Broadband Expansion Grant 2021**

PPCS was awarded two grants in the WI PSC FY2021 grant program to build to approximately 475 locations. This Phase 1 project is scheduled to be completed this Spring. PPCS expanded the original scope of this project and self-funded a larger build which included bringing fiber to 1500 locations and building 175 miles of fiber. The investment by the WI PSC grant program has created a much bigger impact than the original application.

#### **Wisconsin PSC ARPA Broadband Expansion Grant 2022**

In the Fall of 2021, PPCS was awarded nine projects to serve 2400 locations and build 466 miles of fiber as a Phase 2 project. This project has been concurrently kicked off as Phase 1 comes to closure. Phase 2 will be completed in the Spring of 2023. As part of Phase 2, a portion of the Town of Kinnickinnic will be included that build.

PPCS has demonstrated it can handle the scale of these projects and continue to build out service in an aggressive and efficient manner. PPCS has been managing through material and contractor availability, and while challenges exist, the Phase 1 project is ending with more than 800 customers registering for service and more signing up each day. We expect once Phase 2 begins rolling out to

customers, take rates will be in the 50 – 60% range before the first premise drop is completed. We expect in this application, the take rates to be comparable to other projects.

- b. A description of how the proposed project will or will not duplicate existing broadband infrastructure.

As part of the due diligence process, PPCS physically drives the project area noting fiber and existing landline services. Where possible, PPCS takes notes of these and validates with customer survey, questionnaire, and research. PPCS does not believe this project substantially overlaps service providers that are providing reliable broadband without restrictions.

- c. A description of an applicant's financial ability to undertake the proposed broadband construction project.

This may include information such as the number of years the company has been in operation, documentation of successful completion of similar infrastructure projects, evidence that sufficient funds are available to cover project expenditure and match, customer turn-over rates, and credit rating.

PPCS was incorporated in 1937 and energized its first member in 1938. We have strong financials for a cooperative our size, including revenues consistently over \$18 million over the past two years. As a cooperative, we provide service in a not-for-profit model. The cooperative has returned \$16.3 million back in patronage to members. This is money that is put back into the hands of our member-owners when the cooperative is successful. Our net margin was \$1.3 million in 2021. We currently have \$43 million dollars in assets. Our equity ratio at the end of 2021 was 57%, which was 12 points higher than industry averages for over 800 electric cooperatives. We have secured additional funding through our national lending institutions for the buildout of fiber. Exhibit E includes a letter from National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.

- d. For middle mile projects, state the terms under which the applicant will make its middle mile fiber resource available to last mile providers. Without disclosing project-specific or customer-specific negotiated rates for service or access, state whether access to the middle mile fiber resource will be offered to last mile providers at a rate that is reasonable and common to the industry. Describe any restrictions or limits that may limit the availability or interconnection with the middle mile route.

N/A

- e. For middle mile routes, state the amount of fiber capacity, by number of fiber strands in a cable, that the applicant has been reserved for public use. Describe any commitment or tentative discussion indicating the local government or State agency that might use those fiber strands, and for what purpose. Describe any restrictions or limits that may limit the public use (e.g. a possible use conflicts with an existing program covering the same subject matter).

N/A

- f. A description of how the proposed project will affect the ability of individuals to access health care service from home, including any impact upon the costs of those services.
- Specific information from a hospital or clinic in the project area that currently uses or intends to use home-based telemedicine equipment to enhance access health care service would best illustrate this point.

The Town of Kinnickinnic specifically asked a question regarding telemedicine in their survey. The question posed was, "Would you use telemedicine (for example, meeting with your doctor online, monitor a medical device)?" Over 84% of the survey respondents stated they would use telemedicine services. The Town does not have any medical facilities inside the town boundaries. While there are available medical facilities in both River Falls and Hudson, expanded broadband provides expanded health care options.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put a large spotlight on telemedicine as for many individuals this has become the only way to see their provider, renew prescriptions, and receive updates to medical equipment such as pacemakers. Rural residents often must travel to a community center, library, or hotspot to connect with providers as we have no hospitals inside of Pierce County. Allina Health, Vibrant Health Family Clinics, and the Mayo Clinic Health system all offer telemedicine options.

Rural health and the opportunities for seniors to see local providers is in decline. While the health industry pushes towards telemedicine, those without access lose out and often end up driving much greater distances to receive medical care. Enabling broadband doesn't fix hospital closures, but it opens new opportunities for the future. Included in the application is a letter of support, Exhibit F, from Pierce County Health Officer and Public Health Director AZ Snyder. Even though Ms. Snyder serves Pierce County, River Falls clinics sit on the border between St. Croix and Pierce Counties. Ms. Snyder has a unique perspective relative to rural care.

Expansion of broadband indeed will benefit the expansion of health care options in the county. It will make care easier and allow for innovative ways for residents to interact with their providers and to ensure they are receiving timely and crucial health services to maintain health.

- g. A description of how the proposed project will affect the ability of students to access educational opportunities from home.
- Specific information on the likely number of students that will benefit from improved access to educational opportunities from home would be useful.
  - Specific information regarding educational programs that are currently available for students in the project area would be useful.

About 40% of the St. Croix County respondents had at least one child in school. In addition, the Town of Kinnickinnic is close in proximity to Chippewa Valley Technical College and UW-River Falls. Expanded broadband coverage will undoubtedly open opportunities for students to have broader access to the internet.

The project area includes both the River Falls and St. Croix School Districts, as well as the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and Chippewa Valley Technical College. Both school districts, CVTC and the university utilize technology in their schools including providing laptops for students.



All school systems are doing in-person, hybrid, and distant learning. Individuals who do not have broadband must find public hot spots or access connectivity through community services such as libraries. Having access to broadband will eliminate the need for students to stay in town or finding a hotspot in the evening to complete schoolwork.

Outside of the overwhelming desire to have a fiber option, the most common response we received in our survey was the access to broadband for learning. The following comments are reflective of the community support for this project:

*"I knew it was inadequate but with my kids trying to do school from home it had made it even more apparent how lacking our service is."*

*"High quality internet service is as critical to this area as electricity. We don't assume rural people will find their electricity through random means, but that is what is currently happening with broadband. Our kids are missing out by not being connected."*

Alan Tuchtenhagen, a River Falls School Board Member provided a letter of support shown in Exhibit C. In that letter he stated the following:

*"I am in a unique position to comment. As a long-time River Falls School Board member, I have seen our schools embrace technology to enhance learning for all students. If done right, technology is the new "leveler" by providing universal opportunities to help students and families of all socio/geographic/economic circumstances take advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. The challenge for them, however, is to have access to dependable high-speed internet. We provide devices (laptop computers) for all students to use while at school or to take home. They can even use them over the summer, but their value is diminished if they have weak, undependable, or nonexistent internet access outside of the school day. "*

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century classroom incorporates digital learning and the ability for children to be able to learn and research is critical. Rural children need the same opportunities as those living in larger communities. Our project accomplishes another piece of bridging the gap.

h. A description of actions taken by a city, village, town, or county in support of the grant application that have not been discussed in the context of a public-private partnership above, including but not limited to:

- The contribution of funds, easements or permissions to use publicly-owned real estate, construction materials, or other items of value to the grant project.
- The contribution of in-kind assistance to the grant project in the form of waived fees and expenses for obtaining use permits and permissions.
- The contribution of other items of benefit to the grant project, such as public outreach and education, vehicles, water, etc.
- Certification as a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community.

The Town of Kinnickinnic has signed a partnership resolution with Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services and contributed \$200,000 in support of the application. St. Croix County selected PPCS and awarded a \$500,000 grant in support of the Town of Kinnickinnic application. The Town of Kinnickinnic is also

a Broadband Forward! Community. PPCS will also utilize the Town of Kinnickinnic Hall to provide outreach, community education, and other events to help residents learn more about the expanded broadband coverage and opportunities to use the proposed service.

i. Letters and messages in support of the application submitted by prospective customers, local government officials, and other interested persons.

1. Senator Rob Stafsholt
2. Representative Shannon Zimmerman
3. Representative Clint Moses
4. AZ Snyder, Pierce County Health Officer
5. Town of Kinnickinnic Residents
6. Alan Tuchtenhagen

j. Any other equitable factor that the applicant desires to discuss, including one or more of the factors in Wis. Stat. § 196.03(6) that the applicant believes its project would advance. In discussing this element, the following information may be useful:

- Technical support and training materials that the applicant intends to provide.
- Information that the applicant intends to use to promote better broadband adoption and use.
- A description of a program or outreach to provide assistance to individuals of low income.

The application includes digital literacy events held at town halls in the service area of the application. These events will be held two to three times next year in which residents can attend a session at their town hall. These events will focus on the basics of connecting devices, using a browser, checking e- mail, setting up links, and conducting a FaceTime, Zoom, or equivalent call. These events will be open to all residents. PPCS has access to promote these events because of the existing relationship with customers in the service area. In addition, St. Croix County is accepting applications for connectivity grants for county residents.

## Exhibit Listing

Exhibit A – Town of Kinnickinnic Partnership and Support Letter  
Exhibit B – St. Croix County Partnership Letter  
Exhibit C – Letter from Alan Tuchtenhagen, River Falls School Board Member  
Exhibit D – Letters of Support from Senator Rob Stafsholt, Representative Shannon Zimmerman, and Representative Clint Moses  
Exhibit E – National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation  
Exhibit F – Letter of Support from AZ Snyder, Pierce County Health Officer  
Exhibit G – Bill of Materials Sample for Project  
Exhibit H – Town of Kinnickinnic Resident Letters  
Exhibit I – Town of Kinnickinnic Survey

## **Exhibit A**

**Town of Kinnickinnic  
St Croix County, Wisconsin  
Public Private Partnership Agreement between  
Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services and the Town of Kinnickinnic for  
WI PSC ARPA Broadband Access Grant, Fiscal Year 2022  
Resolution No. 2022-2**

**Purpose:** To create a public private partnership for the purpose of applying to the state of Wisconsin PSC Broadband Access Grant, Fiscal Year 2022.

**WHEREAS**, on December 1, 2021 the state of Wisconsin Public Service Commission launched the FY 2022 Broadband Expansion Grant and authorized \$100 million to be spent on broadband infrastructure.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kinnickinnic agrees to enter into a public private partnership with Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services for the purpose of applying for a state of Wisconsin PSC Broadband Expansion Grant, Fiscal Year 2022.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kinnickinnic agrees to provide in-kind contributions to help educate, promote, and develop broadband outreach to residents.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kinnickinnic desires to utilize \$200,000, including the ARPA allocation of \$189,554.75, to fund broadband development.

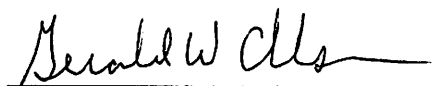
**WHEREAS**, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services will apply and be the primary grant author and recipient of the grant funds.

**WHEREAS**, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services will apply the funds to build infrastructure to unserved and underserved areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town of Kinnickinnic Board to enter into a Public Private Partnership Agreement with Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services to expand access and services to underserved and unserved areas of the Town of Kinnickinnic by applying for a state of Wisconsin FY 2022 Broadband Expansion Grant.

**Adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 2022, at a regular Town Board meeting.**

**By the Town Board:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Olson", is written over a horizontal line.

**By: Jerry Olson  
Title: Town Chair**

## Exhibit A

Town of Kinnickinnic  
1271 County Road J  
River Falls, WI 54022  
Phone: (715) 425-8082

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
North Tower - 6th Floor  
Madison, Wisconsin 53705-9100

**Date:** 01 March 2022

**Subject:** Support of Broadband Grant Application for Public-Private Partnership

One of the most consequential developments of the last 30 years is the Internet. From uses like email and online shopping to virtual meetings and telemedicine, the Internet has expanded enormously and offers connections of all aspects of our lives. Like electricity a century ago, fast, reliable Internet has become an expectation of our citizens. Like electricity a century ago, it continues to be an unmet need in some rural areas. The COVID pandemic brought this issue to the forefront as more citizens than ever before were subjected to the need of affordable, reliable, and fast Internet service in our town.

The town of Kinnickinnic conducted a broadband survey in fall of 2021. We received 396 responses, which we considered a very high response rate in a town of approximately 1,800 people. Some comments we received concisely describe our situation. *"We are left in the stone age with the terrible internet in the town of Kinni. It's about time that we get broadband."* *"The internet is a necessary utility just like other utilities. Ridiculous it is not already offered here."* *"We have tried hot spots, satellite and dial up - all terrible!!!!"* *"I love Kinnickinnic and my house, but would think twice about buying here again because of the internet cost/reliability."*

Listed below are the highlights of the survey. The full survey results can be found in the appendix.

- Current Internet services do not meet needs. Slow speed (84%) and shaky connection reliability (81%) were identified as the main reasons, while data plans received a 57% negative rating.
- Online learning is widely used. More than 40% of the respondents stated they have school-age children who rely on the Internet for homework assignments and online classes. Internet-based learning other than K-12 school (e.g. college, continued education, online courses) was utilized by 56% of the respondents.
- The option to "work from home" is limited by poor Internet service. An unexpectedly high percentage (74%) of the respondents pointed out they need better internet service to support work from home; only 10% already worked from home without Internet issues.

- In-home health care options are of great interest. The use of telemedicine (e.g. monitoring a medical device online; meeting with a doctor in a video chat) would be of interest to 85% of the respondents.
- Virtual meetings are the “new normal”, but only 2% of the people who use virtual meetings stated they were very satisfied with their online experience. Two-thirds were not satisfied with their virtual meeting capabilities, feeling limited by connection reliability and speed.
- Our town residents are in favor of new broadband options. 98% of the respondents said they were supportive of the Town of Kinnickinnic actively pursuing broadband options. If a broadband provider offered new highspeed Internet in our town, 92% of the respondents answered they would be likely to consider the new service.

The board of supervisors of the town of Kinnickinnic therefore respectfully ask the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to approve the SwiftCurrent Connect (Pierce-Pepin Cooperative Services) broadband grant application for the town of Kinnickinnic.

*Gerald Olson*

(Gerald Olson, Town Chair)  
Signed on behalf of the Town Board

## **Appendix**

Survey Result 02 Dec 2021.pdf

Exhibit B



February 15, 2022

Pierce Pepin Cooperative  
Attn: Nate Boettcher  
W7725 US 10  
Ellsworth, WI 54011

RE: St. Croix County Broadband Grant Award

The St. Croix County Broadband Committee has approved your grant request.

- Town of Kinnickinnic project for \$500,000.00

The St. Croix County grant is contingent on your organization becoming an ACP qualified provider prior to grant disbursement. All grant projects must be constructed by the end of 2024, though an extension is possible under extraordinary circumstances. The grant is a reimbursement grant after the project is constructed.

St. Croix County looks forward to partnering with you on this project and encourages you to apply for additional project funding if available. Please keep us posted on the status of your project.

Respectfully,

*Ken Witt*

Ken Witt  
County Administrator

## Exhibit C

March 14, 2022

I am writing in support of the grant application by Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services (Swift Current) for additional funding to implement expanded high-speed internet accessibility in rural Pierce County.

I am in a unique position to comment. As a long-time River Falls School Board member, I have seen our schools embrace technology to enhance learning for all students. If done right, technology is the new “leveler” by providing universal opportunities to help students and families of all socio/geographic/economic circumstances take advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. The challenge for them, however, is to have access to dependable high-speed internet. We provide devices (laptop computers) for all students to use while at school or to take home. They can even use them over the summer, but their value is diminished if they have weak, undependable, or nonexistent internet access outside of the school day.

The pandemic has demonstrated just how important all of that is. Our school district immediately provided “hot spots” at all our schools for kids who did not have adequate internet service – accessible from outside the buildings in the parking lots, etc.— for those who did not have adequate service. The public library did the same. Some kids & families were even using their church to get adequate access. It still was not enough. Rural parents in our district were often struggling with working from home and at the same time trying to support/facilitate their kids learning on low quality internet connections – if it was available at all (often dependent on the weather). Our teachers who live in rural areas needed to teach from home and struggled with the same issues.

Our district has now established an E-charter school to serve the needs of families in this region who for whatever reason cannot access education in an in-person mode. The pandemic may be waning, but the important educational need for high-speed universal internet access in rural areas is only increasing.

If our state is to continue to prosper, it will need high quality internet access for ALL its citizens – just as we do for electricity. We can't leave rural areas at the mercy of a hodgepodge of independent vendors that are not dependable. Because this is about our kids, it is literally about the future of Wisconsin – especially rural Wisconsin.

The time is now, and Swift Current has the knowhow and relationships in this community to get this done. They have a track record of dependability. We are fortunate that they are willing to take this on.

Respectfully,

Alan J. Tuchtenhagen



Clifton Township  
N8554 1205<sup>th</sup> Street  
River Falls, WI 54044  
alantuchtenhagen@gmail.com





**Exhibit D**

# ROB STAFSHOLT

STATE SENATOR • 10<sup>th</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

(608) 266-7745  
Toll Free: (800) 862-1092  
Sen.Stafsholt@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

RE: Town of Kinnickinnic Broadband Expansion Grant Application  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
Kristy Nieto, Division Administrator  
Division of Digital Access, Consumer and Environmental Affairs  
Hill Farms State Office Building  
4822 Madison Yards Way, North Tower, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Madison, WI 53705

To: Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write in support of the Pierce Pepin Cooperative-Town of Kinnickinnic broadband expansion grant application.

As the state senator for the 10th district, I fully understand the need for 100% fiber broadband networks to provide lightning-fast internet to rural, underserved communities. This technology will give underserved individuals in the area high-speed internet. Internet access helps boost local economic development and allows students and families to study and work from home. Faster dependable internet access creates a better landscape for telemedicine and other new technologies for today and into the future. Broadband has shown to be incredibly important, given the digital divide seen during the last two years living through a pandemic.

A well-facilitated broadband expansion will help residents continue to live locally, work, and play while utilizing the most competitive technology. The Pierce Pepin Cooperative-Town of Kinnickinnic project will provide fiber and give home broadband access to 640 residential locations in addition to the 110 that will be completed this year. I support their plans to expand broadband access to this area and address the need for high-speed internet access in rural communities.

I ask that you seriously consider this application as a true collaboration of local, county, and state all working together to squelch the digital divide in the Town of Kinnickinnic. This area is a great asset to the 10<sup>th</sup> Senate District and Wisconsin.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Rob Stafsholt  
State Senator  
District 10



# SHANNON ZIMMERMAN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 30<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

January 25, 2022

Nate Boettcher  
President & CEO  
Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services  
W7725 US Highway 10  
Ellsworth, WI 54011

Dear Mr. Boettcher,

I am writing today to recommend that 3 broadband applications (Phase 3) in Pierce and St. Croix Counties receive fiscal year 2022 Public Service Commission Broadband Expansion Grants. Due to the area's strategic position in a fast growing and dynamic area, broadband grants here would go a long way toward encouraging overall economic growth.

The area is in the midst of rapidly expanding region. To take advantage of the growth we have been offered, it would be strategically smart for the state to ensure residents of the area have broadband access. It is a necessity for businesses, and access is a make or break decision for people when moving to a new area.

Ensuring the economic success of the area would not only be good for my constituents, but for the State of Wisconsin. I hope you see the same potential, and agree that rewarding Public Service Commission Broadband Expansion Grants would be a wise investment.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss this personally.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Zimmerman", is written over a horizontal line.

Shannon Zimmerman  
State Representative  
30<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

**Exhibit D**



**CLINT P. MOSES**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 29<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

March 1, 2022

Chairperson Rebecca Valcq  
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Chairperson Valcq:

I strongly support Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services' broadband expansion grant application to help fund their project in Pierce County.

While Pierce County is just south of the district I represent, I know that this project will greatly benefit the people of Western Wisconsin. In addition, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services serves families and businesses in my district, and I am familiar with the great service they provide. Broadband connection is becoming increasingly important for the lives and economic wellbeing of rural Americans as they seek to work and learn remotely and utilize telehealth services.

The Townships of Salem and Clifton know how beneficial this grant can be. This project is proactive and will provide residents with all the new opportunities that broadband connection can bring. I thank you for your fair and full consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clint P. Moses". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C" at the beginning.

Clint P. Moses  
State Representative  
29<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



**National Rural Utilities  
Cooperative Finance Corporation**

*Created and Owned by America's Electric Cooperative Network*

**Exhibit E**

20701 Cooperative Way  
Dulles, Virginia 20166  
703-467-1800 | [www.nrucfc.coop](http://www.nrucfc.coop)

November 6, 2020

Mr. Nate Boettcher  
CEO  
Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services  
P.O. Box 420  
Ellsworth, WI 54011

Dear Mr. Boettcher:

The National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation ("CFC") hereby confirms that, as of the date herein, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services ("Pierce Pepin"), has availability under committed long term credit facilities up to \$8,500,000 for the financing of additional utility plant and has availability under existing line of credit facilities up to \$2,000,000 to support its short-term general working capital needs. Pierce Pepin has applied for an additional \$30,000,000 in financing to support its broadband project; the application is pending approval.

Advances under all credit facilities are subject to the specific provisions of the credit documentation governing each facility, including fulfillment of certain conditions precedent and the absence of any defaults at the time of the advance.

Pierce Pepin has been a member of CFC since 1970 and is in good standing.

CFC is a \$25 billion financial institution created and owned by America's electric cooperatives fifty years ago. CFC's secured long-term debt is rated "A" by Standard and Poor's, "A1" by Moody's, and "A+" by Fitch. CFC is a "Well Known, Seasoned Issuer" under Securities and Exchange Commission rules and has longstanding relationships with global and domestic banks.

CFC appreciates your business and looks forward to working with Pierce Pepin on current and future projects. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 1-800-424-2954, ex. 1885.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Mink  
Associate Vice President

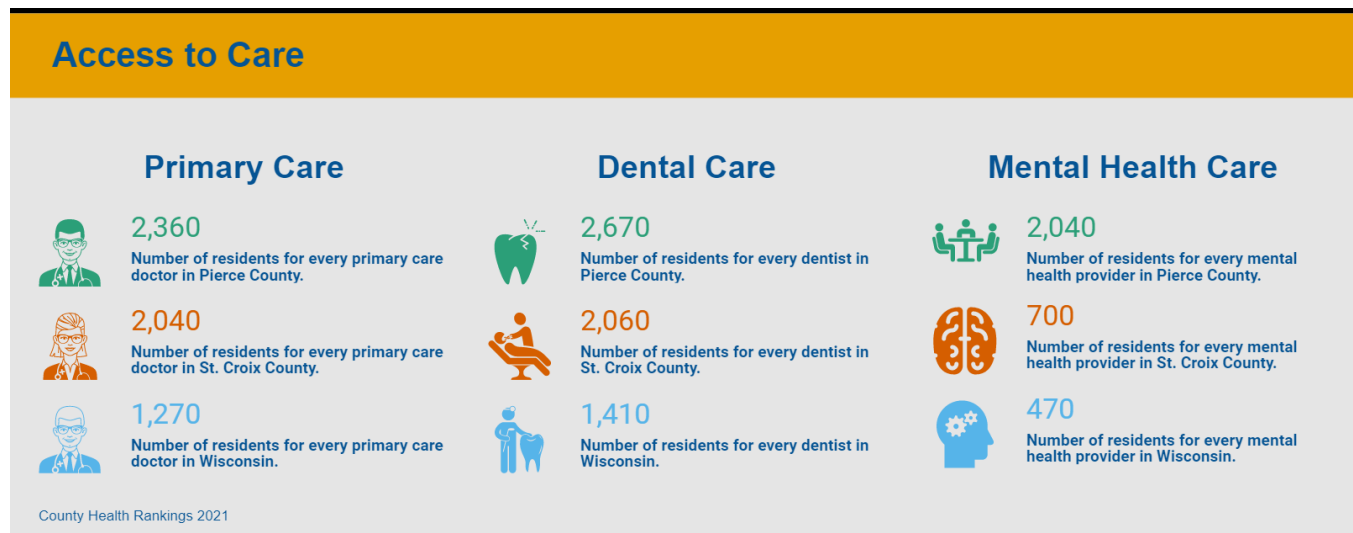
**Exhibit F**

3.11.2022

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my support for Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services' efforts to increase broadband internet access in Pierce County, Wisconsin. Not only does access to fast, reliable and affordable internet have direct health benefits as a result of increased access to healthcare providers and health information,<sup>1</sup> but it has indirect health benefits to health deriving from increased economic and educational opportunities for Pierce County residents.

Half of Pierce County is a designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), meaning we have a shortage of healthcare providers compared to the population. Pierce County has no hospitals within our borders. Two clinics we had in rural areas of our county (Ellsworth and Spring Valley) closed in 2020, further reducing access in in-person local medical care. Pierce County has less primary care providers, dentists, and mental health providers per population than both the state and neighboring St. Croix County (see comparison below).



<sup>1</sup> National Research Council (US) Committee on Enhancing the Internet for Health Applications: Technical Requirements and Implementation Strategies. Networking Health: Prescriptions for the Internet. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 2000. 2, Health Applications of the Internet. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK44714/>

**TALK TO US**

Phone: 715-273-6755

Fax: 715-273-6854

[www.co.pierce.wi.us](http://www.co.pierce.wi.us)**VISIT US**

412 W Kinne St

Ellsworth, WI 54011

**OUR MISSION**

To promote healthy behaviors, prevent disease and injury, and protect against environmental hazards



Pierce County is seeing the direct and real impacts of lack of healthcare access to locally. Only 22% of men over 65 and 20% of women over 65 in Pierce County are up to date on their core clinical preventive services (compared to 32.7% and 28% nationally).<sup>2</sup>

Pierce County Public Health provides a number of clinical services via telehealth. We could greatly increase the number of clients we serve if high-speed internet access was available equitably across the county. During the pandemic, our WIC Supplemental Nutrition program, which provides essential nutrition services and benefits to mothers and their babies, was forced to transition to remote services. We found that many families prefer *not* having to come into the clinic, and would prefer that we continued to offer telehealth services. Additionally, our reproductive health clinic, which provides STI testing and treatment, contraception and sexual health education, transitioned to mostly remote services during the pandemic. This had the positive impact of increasing access to reproductive health services for populations who face transportation challenges. In 2021, a third of our reproductive health clinic visits were conducted via telehealth technology. We are hoping to continue to expand our telehealth offerings in future years based on client preferences.

The continuation and expansion of telehealth services by Pierce County Public Health relies on the availability of broadband internet access. Affordable and quality internet access would also allow us to reach more diverse audiences in rural areas of the county who have traditionally been underserved. This access would result in real health impacts on the health status of Pierce County residents.

Thank you for your consideration,

DocuSigned by:  
  
 DF556B760F0049B...  
 AZ Snyder

Health Officer and Public Health Director

---

<sup>2</sup> PLACES Project

#### TALK TO US

Phone: 715-273-6755  
 Fax: 715-273-6854  
[www.co.pierce.wi.us](http://www.co.pierce.wi.us)

#### VISIT US

412 W Kinne St  
 Ellsworth, WI 54011

#### OUR MISSION

To promote healthy behaviors, prevent disease and injury, and protect against environmental hazards

## ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION BOM FOR: Town of Kinni

Taps  
Meters  
Aerial  
UG  
  
Total884  
640  
0.00  
110.00

110

## CONSTRUCTION WO:

Unit Description	Preferred Vendor	Part Number	Client Part #	UOM	Package Qty	Est Build Qty	Phgs Needed	Total Qty
12 CT ARMORED FIBER: D-012-LA-8W-F12NS	COMMSCOPE	8107297/DB		FT	15500	469,830	31	480500
24 CT ARMORED FIBER: D-024-LA-8W-F12NS	COMMSCOPE	8107298/DB		FT	15500	49,715	3	46500
48 CT ARMORED FIBER: D-048-LA-8W-F12NS	COMMSCOPE	8107300/DB		FT	15500	36,951	2	31000
96 CT ARMORED FIBER: D-096-LA-8W-F12NS	COMMSCOPE	8107303/DB		FT	15500	39,258	2	31000
144 CT ARMORED FIBER: D-144-LA-8W-F12NS	COMMSCOPE	8107305/DB		FT	15500	72,164	10	155000
144 CT Armored Fiber Yellow Tracer	COMMSCOPE	8108111/DB - D-144-LA-8W-F12YL		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
96 CT Armored Fiber Yellow Tracer	COMMSCOPE	810009109/DB - D-096-LA-8W-F12YL		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
144 CT ARMORED FIBER GREEN TRACER	COMMSCOPE	8108304/DB - D-144-LA-8W-F12GR		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
96 CT ARMORED FIBER GREEN TRACER	COMMSCOPE	8107827/DB - D-096-LA-8W-F12GR		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
24 CT ADSS Fiber: 024f,singlemode,Loose Tube, Med Load (Hut to Sub)	COMMSCOPE	S-24-LN-8W-F12NS/NF8		FT	10000	Manual Entry		0
Conduit, HDPE, 1.25 SDR 11, SmoothWall, ORG,1000ft pull tape,8000'	Blue Diamond	BD11330R-T10		FT	8000	598,224	60	480000
12F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP	STERLITE	MA-0012F-SN-01T-F-BU-US		FT	15500	469,830	0	0
24F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP	STERLITE	MA-0024F-SN-02T-F-BU-US		FT	15500	49,715	0	0
48F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP	STERLITE	MA-0048F-SN-04T-F-BU-US		FT	15500	36,951	0	0
96F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP	STERLITE	MA-0096F-SN-08T-F-BU-US		FT	15500	39,258	0	0
96F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP Green Strip	STERLITE	MA-0096F-SN-08T-F-BU-GR		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
96F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP Yellow Strip	STERLITE	MA-0096F-SN-08T-F-BU-YL		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
144F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP	STERLITE	MA-0144F-SN-12T-F-BU-US		FT	15500	72,164	0	0
144F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP Green Strip	STERLITE	MA-0144F-SN-12T-F-BU-GR		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
144F SM loose Tube, Single Armor Single Jacket, NOVA / G.657.A1, OSP Yellow Strip	STERLITE	MA-0144F-SN-12T-F-BU-YL		FT	15500	Manual Entry		0
Lubricant, Cable Pulling for fiber optic 5 GAL	Various	F-640		EA	1	4	2	2
Black Electric Tape, Log of 10 ( 88' tape)	3M	3M-88T-3/4x60		EA	10	2,200	150	1500
FIBER MARKER - RHINO 72" 1 rail orange hybrid	BB MFG	RH1R-72		EA	1	997	600	600
Test Station Post Marker. ( Locate fiber Marker Post)	William & Frick	TSP-EC-ELECTRIC-6"		EA	25	Manual Entry	#VALUE!	0
Fiber Marker Post NON- Locatable fiber Marker Post	William & Frick	DM6		EA	25	Manual Entry	#VALUE!	0
DUCT COUPLER	B&C	P2C-1.660		EA	100	2,200	4	400
PEDESTAL PenCell 23 9/19 x 19 1/16 x 12 3/16 base (96 and below)	Hubbell	AN14HDBS00009		EA	1	1,196	500	500
PEDESTAL PenCell 30 x 24 x15 Base (144 count)	Hubbell	AN20HDBS00009		EA	1	220	100	100
Flower Pot Assembly 9" Flower Pot Underground Assembly	Hubbell	PE9AHDH0000LW		EA	1	522	100	50
5' Reflective Fiberglass whip Marker to ID peds in Deep snow	Country Enterprises	73516 W-(R&W)-10801		EA	1	TBD based on client and conditions	0	0
BOX OB 24X36X24Box, polymer concrete, Tier 22, 24"x36"x24", Straight Wall, Open Bottom	Hubbell	PG2436BA24		EA	1	330	40	40
CVR BD HD 24X36X3/HW-FIBER OPTICS Cover, Polymer Concrete, Heavy Duty Tier 15, 24"x36"x3", 1-piece w/2 Bolts	Hubbell	PG2436HA0021		EA	1	330	40	40
BOX OB 30X48X36	Hubbell	PG3048BA36		EA	1	55	1	1
CVR BD HD 30X48X3/HW-FIBER OPTICS Cover, Polymer Concrete, Tier 15 , 30"x48", 1-piece, with 2 Bolts	Hubbell	PG3048HA0021		EA	1	55	1	1
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 10dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T10-N-96		EA	1	77	75	65
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 12dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T12-N-96		EA	1	87	102	75
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 14dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T14-N-96		EA	1	76	83	83
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 15dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T15-N-96		EA	1	84	79	79
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 17dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T17-N-96		EA	1	78	81	81
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 19dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T19-N-96		EA	1	74	72	72
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 21dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T21-N-96		EA	1	17	73	73
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 4dB Terminating, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T04T-N-96		EA	1	11	10	10
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 5dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T05-N-96		EA	1	7	7	7
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 7dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T07-N-96		EA	1	21	22	22
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 2 DropTap 8dB, 2 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/20-2T08-N-96		EA	1	43	32	32
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 10dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T10-N-96		EA	1	9	9	9
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 11dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T11-N-96		EA	1	40	37	37
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 13dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T13-N-96		EA	1	59	38	38
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 15dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T15-N-96		EA	1	31	42	42
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 17dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T17-N-96		EA	1	39	43	43
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 7dB Terminating, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T07T-N-96		EA	1	6	6	6
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 9dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T09-N-96		EA	1	23	21	21
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 19dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T19-N-96		EA	1	39	33	33
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 4 DropTap 21dB, 4 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/40-4T21-N-96		EA	1	25	32	32
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 8 DropTap 11dB Terminating, 8 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/80-8T11T-N-96		EA	1	1	2	2
OFDC-OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 8 DropTap 12dB, 8 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/80-8T12-N-96		EA	1	2	3	3
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 8 DropTap 14dB, 8 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/80-8T14-N-96		EA	1	3	4	4
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 8 DropTap 15dB, 8 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/80-8T15-N-96		EA	1	6	6	6
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 8 DropTap 17dB, 8 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/80-8T17-N-96		EA	1	7	7	7
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 8 DropTap 19dB, 8 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/80-8T19-N-96		EA	1	6	6	6
OFDC-C12, SC/APC, 8 DropTap 21dB, 8 Adapters, No mounting kit, 96 splices.	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-S2/80-8T21-N-96		EA	1	14	15	15
OFDC-C12 Closure, SPICE ONLY, 48 Fiber	COMMSCOPE	OFDC-C12-NN/00-NN-N-96-US86		EA	1	30	30	30
OFDC-C12-1 Pole Mount Kit (One Piece)[ 1 for ea OFDC], OFDC-C12 Pole Mount Bracket Kit with 2 inch extension to accommodate cable slack.	COMMSCOPE	760250986		EA	25	903	30	750
OFDC - C12 Strand Mount Kit	COMMSCOPE	EM2200-001		EA	1	2	0	0
B BOND CLAMP Single stud with double nut per stud. For 0.5"-0.8" cable.	Hubbell	EM2081		EA	10	26	0	0
0	Hubbell	EM8100410		EA	10	26	0	0
OFDC Armor Grounding Kit ( One for each UG OFDC Splice Location) Box of 25	COMMSCOPE	760248511		BOX	25	56	4	100
Ground wire for OFDC	COMMSCOPE	EM0958-001		EA	1	56	100	100
POLE MOUNT FIBER STORAGE ( H-Frames)--Default to this one if available	American Products	AM-3432-FSF		EA	2	0	25	50
POLE MOUNT FIBER STORAGE ( H-Frames)--2nd choice if American Products not available	MULTILINK	065-058-10		EA	2	Manual entry		0
Aluminum 3 pc Pole Mount Fiber Storage (H-Frames)--3rd choice if American Products and Multilink not available	Hubbell	BAFOB		EA	2	Manual entry		0
TYCO B SPICE CLOSURE (96 count lateral)	COMMSCOPE	FOSC-450-B6-4-NT-0-TOV		EA	1	11	10	10
TYCO B SPICE TRAY(24)	COMMSCOPE	FOSC-ACC-B-BTRAY 24		EA	2	44	20	40
TYCO D - SPICE CLOSURE (144 count lateral)	COMMSCOPE	FOSC-450-D6-6-NT-0-D6V		EA	1	11	5	5
TYCO D SPICE TRAYS (72)	COMMSCOPE	FOSC-ACC-D-TRAY-72-KIT		EA	2	22	10	20
Aerial strand mounting clamp and accessories (FOSC)	COMMSCOPE	FOSC-ACC-450-AERIAL-CLMP		EA	10	0	0	0
TYCO POLE MOUNT BRACKET( For FOSC Closure)	COMMSCOPE	FOSC-ACC-WALL_POLE		EA	2	0	0	20
SPICE SLEEVES - TYCO 60 MM	COMMSCOPE	369305000		EA	1000	1,503	2	2000
SPICE SLEEVES - TYCO 45 MM ( Used in OFDC's)	COMMSCOPE	SMOUV-1120-02		EA	1000	Manual entry	5	5000
WIPES (280 wipes per box)(30 box = case) 8400 wipes	KIMBERLY-CLARK	S-8115		Case	1	1	1	1



Unit Description	Preferred Vendor	Part Number	Client Part #	UOM	Package Qty		Est Build Qty	Plgs Needed	Total Qty
BUDI 5, Splitter Terminal includes 1 feeder splice tray, 2 1x16 FPS PnP module, 32 SC/APC slide adapters installed	COMMSCOPE	BUDI-5AJ32SM-MV		EA	1		Manual entry		0
BUDI 5, Terminal includes 1 feeder splice tray, 1x32 FPS PnP module, 32 SC/APC slide adapters installed.	COMMSCOPE	BUDI-5AJ32SA-MV		EA	1		Manual entry		0
2" x 10' Galv Conduit	CONDUIT	2x10GALV		EA	1		0	0	0
FITTING, GUY, SIDEWALK, POLE END Sidewalk Guy Pole End Plate. Used where space is not available for standard guying. Attach with one 5/8" bolt and two 1/2" lag screws.	Hubbell	0501		EA	10		0	0	0
FITTING, GUY, SIDEWALK, GUY END Sidewalk Guy End Fitting, with one clamp. Used where space is not available for standard guying. Use with No. 0501 Pole End Fitting and 2" diameter pipe (Not included). Hot dip galvanized. RUS Listed.	Hubbell	0502		EA	10		0	0	0
DOWNLEAD CLAMP L - LAG SCREW KIT (3 per H-Frame) 4" lag W/washer	Hubbell	PSE4040212P		EA	1		0	25	25
DUCT SEAL	BLACKBURN	DK-1 11B		EA	1		Manual entry	5	5
3000' POLYPULL LINE (3000 per bucket) (zip line)	DOTT	DWP3000		Bucket	1		22	5	5
Conduit, HDPE, 4.00" SDR 11, SmoothWall, ORG,1000# pull tape,8000'	Blue Diamond	BD413OR		FT	800		27,280	0	0
3 IN. 3 CELL BLUE, 5300 FT. 9999 FT.	MAXCELL	MXE64283BL5300		FT	5300		Manual entry	0	0
FIBER CABLE OH MARKER <i>CUSTOMIZABLE (Change Part number)</i> Mounting to steel poles	ACP International	DN33		EA	1		0	0	0
.250"X 1 1/2 " SelfDrill Fenderhead W/O/W DYNA-COAT HWH #1	Dynamic Fastener	5N14X1.5"		EA	1000		1,000	0	0
4" BLUE TY WRAP	PANDUIT	PLT1M-M6		EA	100		660	0	0
7" BLACK TY WRAP	PANDUIT	BT2M-CO		EA	100		2,640	25	2500
11" BLACK TY WRAP	PANDUIT	BT3I-CO		EA	100		2,640	20	2000
99% ISOPROPYLALCOHOL GALLON	RAINBOW	44029		EA	1		2	0	0
16 SOL HF-CCS /PE30/ 111# BS/High-Flex / Green 500' Reel (Tracer Wire)	William & Frick	744160532		FT	500		2,000	4	2000
Aluminum Cable Damper. To be used in strong crosswind areas to prevent movement and oscillation. 2 per Span.	Allied Bolt	9081		EA	1		manual entry--only used in high wind areas and on long spans (if used on power)	0	0
Ant Packets (Rainbow Fire Ant and Insect Killer 4oz package)	Rainbow	4480		EA	50		Manual entry	0	0
BAND, STAINLESS STEEL, 3/4in X 100ft Banding 3/4" x .03" x 100' used to secure brackets and equipment to poles. Skived edges to remove burrs. Use in conjunction with buckle PSC2080559.	Hubbell	C3420155B100		EA	1		0	0	0
Buckle 3/4" used to secure brackets and equipment to poles. Use with banding C3420155B100.	MacLean	MBH8-58		EA	24		0	0	0
BRACKET, BANDING, GENERAL PURPOSE Bracket with standard 5/8" x 2" bolt	Hubbell	CHD8B1511H		EA	1		0	0	0
U-guard and Conduit Straps 2"(Concrete Poles)	MacLean	MBST-2		EA	24		0	0	0
Scru seal Kit. 25 Scru seal Racks, 25 Housings, Valu strap Band 3/8x.015x100'	Band-it	M21099		EA	25		0	0	0
CONDUIT PVC 4 INCH X 20 FT	Various	514020		EA	1		5,500	0	0
Conduit, HDPE 4.00" SDR 11, SmoothWall, Org,1000# Pull tape (Comes on 4" reels of 800')	Various	BD413OR		FT	800		800	0	0
1/2"SDR11 Orange, 1250# pull Tape 5,000' Reels	Dura-Line	2031880810		FT	5000		Manual entry		0
1" SDR11 Orange, 1250# pull Tape, 5000' Reels	Dura-Line	10004433		FT	5000		Manual entry		0
12 CT NON-ARMORED FIBER D-012-LN-8W-F12NS	Fiber	8107357/DB		FT	15500		Manual entry		0
24 CT NON-ARMORED FIBER D-024-LN-8W-F12NS	Fiber	8107358/DB		FT	15500		Manual entry		0
48 CT NON-ARMORED FIBER D-048-LN-8W-F12NS	Fiber	8107360/DB		FT	15500		Manual entry		0
96 CT NON-ARMORED FIBER D-096-LN-8W-F12NS	Fiber	8107363/DB		FT	15500		Manual entry		0
144 Ct NON-ARMORED FIBER D-144-LN-8W-F12NS	Fiber	8107365/DB		FT	15500		Manual entry		0
SELF-SUPPORTING NON-ARMORED FIGURE-8 OUTDOOR DROP CABLE	CommScope	COMMSCOPE M-004-MN-8W-F04NS/109		FT	2000		89,300	20	40000
Self-Supporting All-Dielectric Outdoor Drop Cable 4-CT FLAT DROP 2000' PUT UP	CommScope	COMMSCOPE O-004-DF-8W-F04NS		FT	2000		Manual entry		0
2F standard Flat, toneable.	CommScope	8108198/DB O-002-DF-HY-F02NS/8W002/1X24AWG		FT	2000		194,000	20	40000
2 Count drop with locate wire 900 Micron	CommScope	810009422/DB CommScope O-002-DF-HY-F02NS 8G002/1X24AWG/IC29		FT	2000		Manual entry		0
2 Ct / 250 Micron Non-Tonable Flat Drop	CommScope	8107934/DB, O-002-DF-8W-F02NS		FT	5000		Manual entry		0
2 Ct Flat Drop, 250 Micron, NON-Tonable 2000 ft reels	Sterlite	FD-0004F-SN-01T-G-PL-99		FT	2000		Manual entry		0
2 count flat drop (Comes in 2000 ft spools)	Corning	002EB1-14101A20-2000FT		FT	2000		Manual entry		0
1/2 PVC SCHEDULE 40 10' Sticks	Various	PVC SCH40.5		EA	10		Manual entry		0
Schedule 40 Elbow, Size 1/2 Inch, Bend Radius Standard, Bend Angle 90 Degrees, Material PVC	Various	PVC UA9AD		EA	50		600	0	0
CP050 1/2" SCH 40 COUPLING	Various	PVC E940D		EA	150		1,350	0	0
CLMP050 1/2" PVC CONDUIT CLAMP	Various	PVC E977DC		EA	100		900	0	0
3/4" coupler	Various	CPL34PVF		EA	25		125	0	0
3/4" clamp	Various	5133737		EA	25		125	0	0
Charles Riser, Cane Straight	Charles	12-119-5		EA	1		420	0	0
Conduit, HDPE .75 SDR 11, SmoothWall, ORG,1000# pull tape,5000'	Charles	12-119-2		EA	1		420	0	0
Blue Diamond Micro Duct 8/10mm Outdoor	Various	P075SDR11-ORANGE (Blue Diamond)		FT	5000		5,000	0	0
CRIMPLOK(TM) + CONN SC/APC SM 900UM WITH PS TOOL	3M	3M 8700-PS/APC		EA	0		2,000	0	0
PIGTAIL, SM SIMPLEX, 3MM SCAPC TO BARE FIBER 24IN	TVC	TVC AV15SCAPC1324Y		EA	1		0	0	0
Surelight® Field Installable Connector - SC/APC, Singlemode, 250um/900um	Surelight	066-025-10		EA	2		1,200	0	0
Corning NPCh 8830APCFSC (Mechanical drop Connector)	Corning	Corning NPCh 8830APCFSC		EA	0		0	0	0
WIREVISE - Auto Deadend for Messenger Figure 8 Drop	MacLean	MPS 3058		EA	100		400	0	0
60MM SPICE SLEEVE	CommScope	TYCO 369305000		EA	1000		1,000	0	0
45MM SPICE SLEEVE	CommScope	CommScope SM0UW-1120-02		EA	1000		3,000	0	0
FIS FUSION PROTECTION SLEEVE 40MM	FIS	FIBINST F1100240C-50		EA	50		1,200	0	0
Splicing Drops ( Drop Repair)	CommScope	FDSC-GATOR-12F-T		FT	50		50	0	0
DROP WIRE CLAMP FIBER CABLE (Wedge Clamp for flat drop)	Maclean Senior Industries	SENIOR SI-0972		EA	100		500	0	0
HOOK DRIVE (J Hook)	MacLean	MPS 1331B		EA	1		400	0	0
O SPAN CLAMP CROSSES TO 4075 ALLIED ALSO *	Belden	BELDEN 2700860		EA	100		300	0	0
3-3/4" P HOUSE HOOK	Allied Bolt	ALLIED BOLT 921		EA	200		600	0	0
BRACKET, SERVICE DEADEND (Power Mast Attachment)	Hubbell	HPS C2060169		EA	1		125	0	0
1" X 10' FLANGED RISER GUARD	Hubbell	PSC2030546		EA	3		90	0	0
10 X 1-1/2 Hex Washer Head Slotted/Phillips Sheet Metal Screws	Dottie	DOTTIE HWSMS10112		BOX	1600		1	0	0
10 X 1 Hex Washer Head Slotted/Phillips Sheet Metal Screws	Dottie	DOTTIE HWSMS101		BOX	3200		1	0	0
10 x 2" Hex Washer Head Slotted/Phillips Sheet Metal Screws	Dottie	DOTTIE HWSMS102		BOX	1600		1	0	0
16 SOL HF-CCS PE30 111#BS High Flex Green 2500' Reel	William & Frick	744160547-CX		Reel	2500		1	0	0
POST, MOBILE HOME, 36 IN	Emerson	EMERSON MHP36		EA	10		10	0	0
Tapered Anchors with Collar ( Red )	Dottie	DOTTIE 22 8-10-12		BOX	3200		1	0	0
3/16" X 1-3/4" Tapcon Hex head Masonry Fastener W/Drill Bit	TAPCON	3141407		BOX	1600		1	0	0
Cable Tie, Length of 139.7mm (5.5 inches), Width of 3.56mm (0.14 inches),	T&B	TB TY524MX		BAG	100		60	0	0
Cable Tie, Length of 185.67mm (7.31 inches), Width of 4.67mm (0.184 inches),	T&B	TB TY25MX		BAG	100		30	0	0
E DROP WIRE CLAMP SPR ( Attach drop to pole)	Belden	BELDEN 23-80361		BOX	2000		2	0	0
OWB-S-S0-S24-NN-W (NIDS)	CommScope	CommScope NID		EA	1		600	0	0
NID - Coyote	PLP	STP-GG-3-1-2-1		EA	1		1	0	0
MDU, Box Splice Only	CommScope	BUOI-F5-SPNNNN-US00		EA	1		Manual entry		0
Skirt for MDU Box	CommScope	BUOI-S-SKRT-24		EA	2		Manual entry		0
1 port SC-APC SFU NID (two SC adapter frames; one SC-APC Adapter)	PPC	SFIT-F01A1N-004		EA	1		Manual entry		0
PRIMEX WALL BOX - NID 125-1790(P700 Hex W/FTS,SC/APC	PRIMEX	125-1790		EA	1		Manual entry		0

From: Emily Palma emilypalma131@gmail.com

Subject: Kinnickinnic Township Broadband

Date: January 26, 2022 at 9:32:37 PM

To: Axel Bogdan kinnisupervisor1@icloud.com

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To whom it may concern,

I'm a resident of Kinnickinnic Township and due to the pandemic am required to work from home 100% of the time. Almost two years in and there isn't an anticipated return date. In addition, my husband owns a contracting business and when not in the field, he is working from our home office.

Not having reliable internet limits our ability to effectively communicate with any work partners. We're also in a spot where we get little to no cell phone service. Because we are unable to do any sort of Wi-Fi calling, in addition to a large satellite internet bill, we also have to pay for a long-distance landline phone via AT&T.

We have three young children who are approaching their schooling years and without broadband internet, my children would not be able to effectively stream any sort of teachings or programs required by the school district. Which in turn, drastically impacts their development and ability to move along with the rest of the children in their class who were able to successfully distance learn.

Benefits: work, school, mental health (ability to connect with friends and family), lower monthly bills, reliable resource during inclement weather, among many others. (Today we often lose television signal and satellite signal with poor weather. Because we don't have cell phone service, we're often left to wonder what the weather is doing and if our family is in danger.)

Thank you for looking into this service and for listening to the residents of Kinnickinnic Township.

Emily and Kurt Palma

[1386 Evergreen Dr, Kinnickinnic](#) Township, River Falls

From: Christy Anderson christabell1979@gmail.com

Subject: fiber optic internet

Date: January 27, 2022 at 1:57:29 PM

To: Axel Bogdan kinnisupervisor1@icloud.com

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Hi,

I am writing a letter letting you know how our family who lives in Kinni township could really benefit from fiber optic internet in our area. I have one high school student that needs the internet for her school work, I have an 8th grade student who attends virtual school and we have had to borrow a hotspot for them both for the past 2 years from the school district. I also have a daughter who is in her first year in college that lives with us full time and she has several classes that are online. Additionally, I run a business out of my home and having a good internet connection is invaluable.

This is something our township needs. Please help advocate for us!

Kind regards,

Brandon and Christy Anderson

1288 County Rd M

River Falls, WI

From: Justin Armitage jarmitage@henry.com

Subject: Broadband internet support

Date: January 26, 2022 at 7:27:14 PM

To: Axel Bogdan kinnisupervisor1@icloud.com

Cc: jmarmitage96@gmail.com jmarmitage96@gmail.com,  
justin.armitage@yahoo.com justin.armitage@yahoo.com

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To whom it may concern,

I strongly support getting broadband internet to our homes in Kinnikinnic township. As a remote employee it has been difficult to work with spotty coverage etc. Also, our kids are working remotely more and more and it will only continue in this virtual learning environment. Lastly, it can only add value to our homes down the road. People who work remotely or have children in any type of school (even college) will benefit from this service and be more appealing for value of our homes.

Justin and Missy Armitage

130 county road JJ

River Falls WI.

Sincerely Justin Armitage

Justin Armitage | *BES Territory Manager* | **HENRY a Carlisle Company** | P 715.307.5158 | [www.henry.com](http://www.henry.com)



To whom it may concern,

My family supports getting broadband internet in Kinnickinnic Township. There would be so many benefits to our township residents and my family if broadband internet were to be installed here.

Currently our options for internet are poor at best. My family lives in a beautiful valley but we can only get satellite internet or jet packs through Verizon. We currently have three Verizon jetpacks on our monthly plan to have enough internet for our needs. I have been working from home full time since COVID began and hope to keep doing so. I connect through a VPN and have to call into meetings from my phone as I often lose video connection through my laptop due to poor service.

My family also has two small businesses that we run from our home. Having broadband internet would help us expand our services for our customers and save us time with bookwork. If we had good internet we could accept credit cards which would expand our customer base and we could hire more local youth to work on our farm.

Broadband internet would save our family a tremendous amount of time and money. We could cancel DirecTV and our Verizon Jetpacks. We could have Wi-Fi enabled thermostats. I can save three hours a day working from home instead of commuting to Minneapolis.

Our township has been lacking this convenience of high speed internet for too long. Our kids could successfully complete school work during distance learning. We could have virtual doctor visits and continue working from home as needed. We could utilize the conveniences that so many other communities have.

If broadband were to be installed in Kinnickinnic Township my neighbors and I would sign up immediately. We have been looking forward to this option for years.

Thanks,

Alanna Leisen  
[452 Old Cemetery Rd](#)  
[River Falls, WI 54022](#)  
Kinnickinnic Township

From: Judy Steine steinejm@yahoo.com

Subject: broadband internet

Date: January 28, 2022 at 12:40:39 PM

To: Axel Bogdan kinnisupervisor1@icloud.com

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing requesting broadband internet in our home, located in Kinnickinnic township.

My husband & I own a business located in Baldwin WI. We employee approximately 150 employees. It is extremely frustrating when we need access to the internet when trying to take care of our business needs from home. We have very slow or sometimes spotty access with WiFi.

There are times when virtual appointments or access to online sites are necessary from home.

It would be wonderful if we were able to have a strong internet connection so it wouldn't take an extremely long time to accomplish these tasks.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this and consider my request. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

Judy Steine  
479 Old Cemetery Road  
Roberts, WI 54023

February 11, 2022

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to express the significant need for improved broadband internet in the Town of Kinnickinnic.

I live with my two daughters, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The poor quality of broadband internet is having a significant negative effect. During the past two years, they have been forced to learn remotely at times due to Covid-19. They have had trouble connecting with their teachers with their screens freezing or audio not being understandable. There is no reason that rural children should be at a disadvantage to city children due to inequity in broadband access. The kids also have homework in the evenings where they are required to have internet access. This is a crisis for my daughters. They also have trouble connecting with virtual meetings and events for 4-H.

I am not able to work from home for my main job since the latency of our Viasat Satellite internet is too disruptive to virtual meetings.

Mobile phone hot spots do not work at my home. Direct signal internet from a tower is not available at my location. DSL and cable internet are not available at my location.

I strongly ask you to consider funding fiber optic cable to the homes in the Town of Kinnickinnic so that those of us that live here have equal access to high speed broadband, just like the people that live in the City.

Thank you,

Alan Symicek  
55 County Road JJ  
River Falls, WI 54022 (Town of Kinnickinnic)  
715-977-7676 Mobile  
alan.symicek@gmail.com



February 5, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express support for broadband fiber in Kinnickinnic Township.

As residents of the Township since 2010, we have experienced firsthand the increasing public reliance on high-speed internet for employment, education and entertainment uses, and the accompanying struggle for reliable rural access. We have always utilized a mobile hotspot for our home internet, and it has rarely been adequate for our needs.

In 2019, I began working from home 3 days/week to better meet my family's needs and must use nearly constant internet for access to an online file server as well as virtual meetings. We upgraded our internet package twice at significant expense, and at the end of the month it continues to fall short.

Since 2020, the global pandemic has increased our needs further as our elementary and middle-school aged children began to require internet use to access their basic education. It became necessary to use multiple hotspots and even so, the video quality is often sub-optimal, and our daughter sometimes cannot send recordings of band assignments due to the file size. Our son has been taking guitar lessons online with a local teacher, and at times he is disconnected due to low signal.

In addition to work and schooling, we utilize internet for volunteerism – my husband serves on the church finance committee which meets via Zoom – as well as medical appointments. Our increased needs are not being met, which creates concern about the viability of continuing to live in our home and community. We also have concerns about marketability of our home due to lack of internet options.

Thank you for responding to this critical need through seeking grant funding to install fiber in our neighborhood. It is an essential service for the continued growth of our community – for employment, education, and generally ensuring equitable access to basic needs. Once our basic needs are met, we look forward to the possibility that we may also be able to stream video for entertainment purposes – but at this time that is a luxury that we do not even consider.

Sincerely,

Kristin Dykstra Thompson and family --  
Christopher, Sydney, and Jonah Thompson  
488 Valleyview Rd, Roberts, WI 54023  
612-703-2981  
[Kadthompson78@gmail.com](mailto:Kadthompson78@gmail.com)

To Whom It May Concern:

We recently moved to the beautiful state of Wisconsin and found our dream home in Kinnikinic Township. We have found the area to be breath-taking and peaceful with a community of wonderful residents and neighbors.

Shortly after moving into our new home, we recognized and were baffled by the lack of internet providers/services in Kinnikinic Township. We never would have thought finding and obtaining internet would be such a colossal issue, especially when taking into account how much we paid for our home. It is astounding to us that we are living in the year 2022 with little to no options for fast and reliable internet. After learning of the lack of internet services in our area, I remember my spouse saying to me, "I feel like we just went back in time. I feel like we are living 'off-the-map' and in a third world country." Now, we definitely are not living in a third world country. However, it was quite shocking and a massive disappointment to learn that the state of Wisconsin's residents are not being served appropriately and it has my spouse and I questioning our decision of moving here and the concerns it brings with wanting to start a family someday.

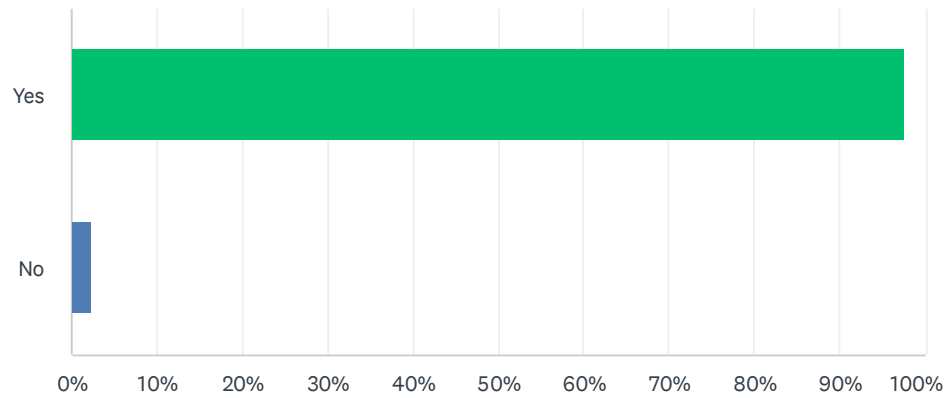
Access to fast and reliable internet is an absolute necessity in today's world. Now more than ever people are working from home, children are having to attend classes at home, college students are having to complete coursework at home, and folks attend medical appointments from home. After our move, I no longer have the option to work from home due to the lack of reliable internet. As a survivor of breast cancer, it also occurred to me and had me questioning how I would have attended my video visits during treatment and how having reliable internet during that time was one less stress on my body, mind, and spirit. Having access to fast and reliable internet shouldn't be something we need to advocate for in 2022. Our states future absolutely depends on having this resource available to everyone, especially if we wish to prosper as a state.

Kevin & Haley Ray

1113 Pine Ridge Dr.  
River Falls, WI 54022  
Kinnikinic Township

## Q1 Are you a resident of the Town of Kinnickinnic?

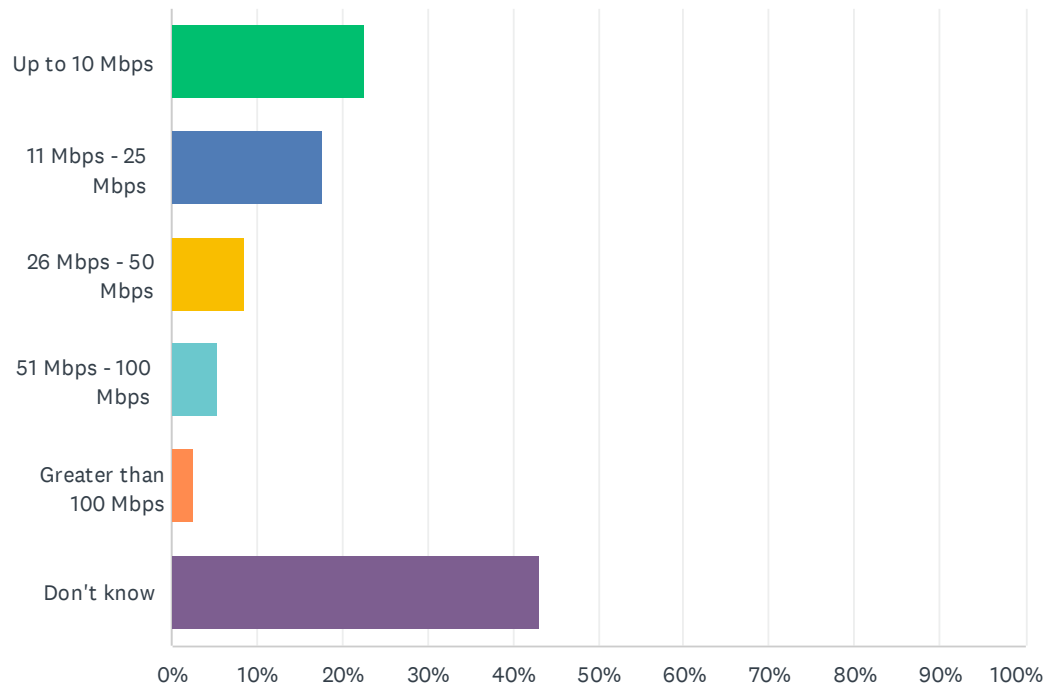
Answered: 396 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	97.73%	387
No	2.27%	9
TOTAL		396

## Q2 What is the advertised speed of your internet connection at home?

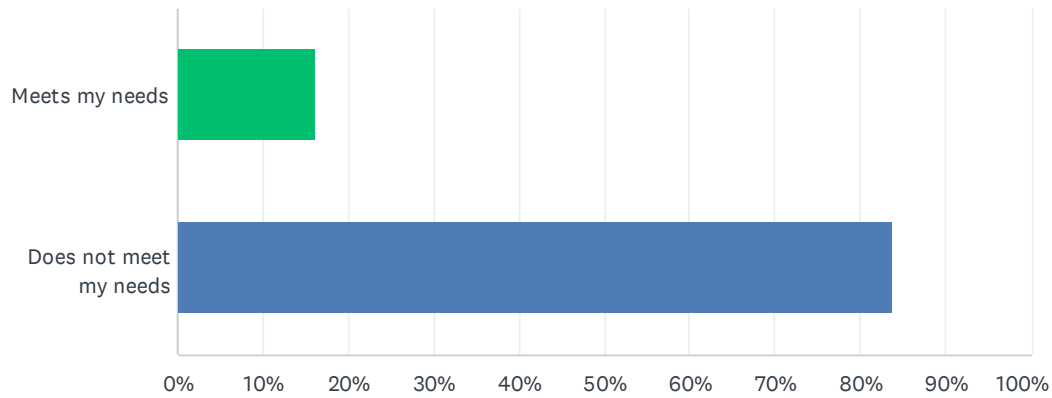
Answered: 394 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Up to 10 Mbps	22.59%	89
11 Mbps - 25 Mbps	17.77%	70
26 Mbps - 50 Mbps	8.63%	34
51 Mbps - 100 Mbps	5.33%	21
Greater than 100 Mbps	2.54%	10
Don't know	43.15%	170
TOTAL		394

### Q3 Please rate your current internet speed:

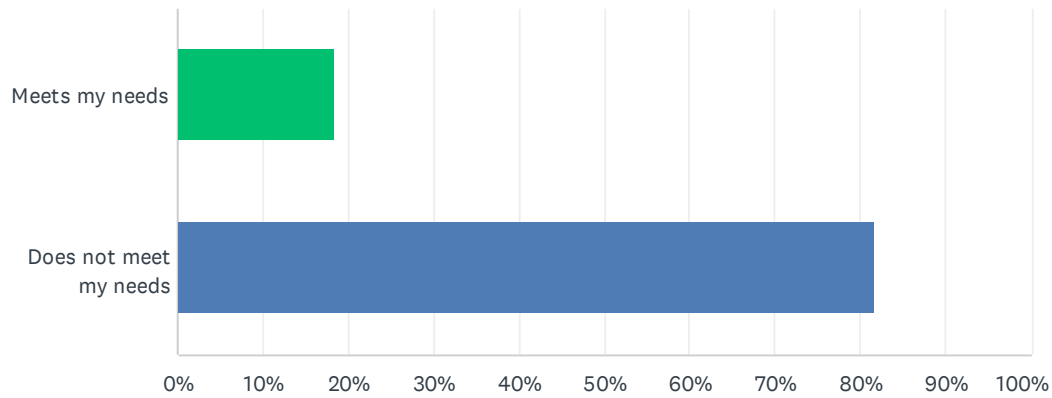
Answered: 393 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Meets my needs	16.28%	64
Does not meet my needs	83.72%	329
TOTAL		393

## Q4 Please rate your current connection reliability:

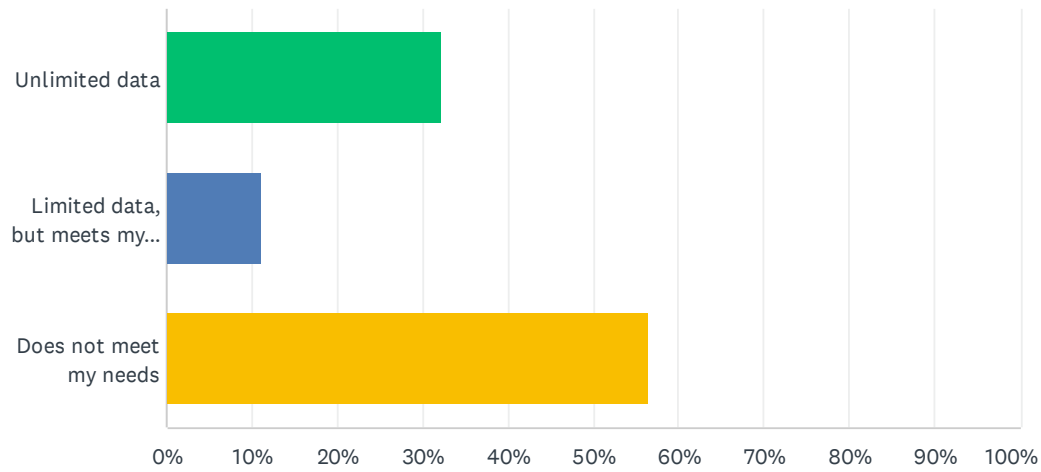
Answered: 394 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Meets my needs	18.27%	72
Does not meet my needs	81.73%	322
TOTAL		394

## Q5 Please rate your current data plan:

Answered: 394 Skipped: 3

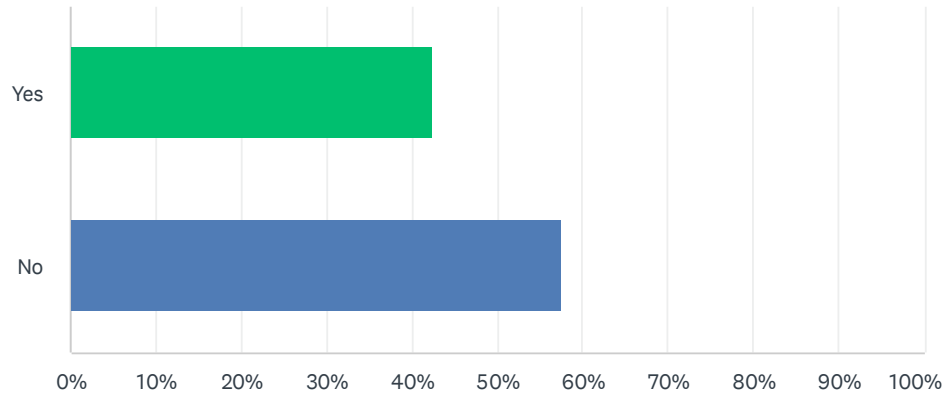


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Unlimited data	32.23%	127
Limited data, but meets my needs	11.17%	44
Does not meet my needs	56.60%	223
TOTAL		394



## Q6 Do you have school age children that need access to the internet for homework or school projects?

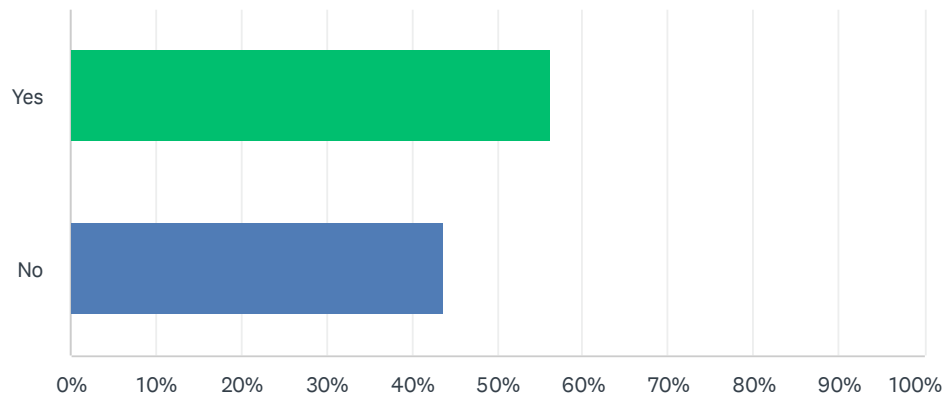
Answered: 395 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	42.53%	168
No	57.47%	227
TOTAL		395

## Q7 Does anyone in your household use the internet for online education other than school (for example, college, continued education, online courses)?

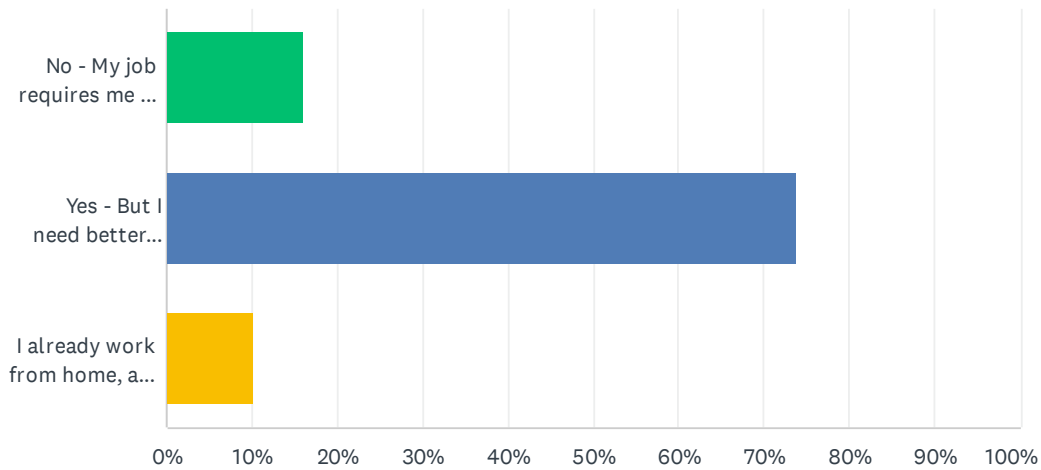
Answered: 395 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	56.20%	222
No	43.80%	173
TOTAL		395

## Q8 Do you have the opportunity to work from home?

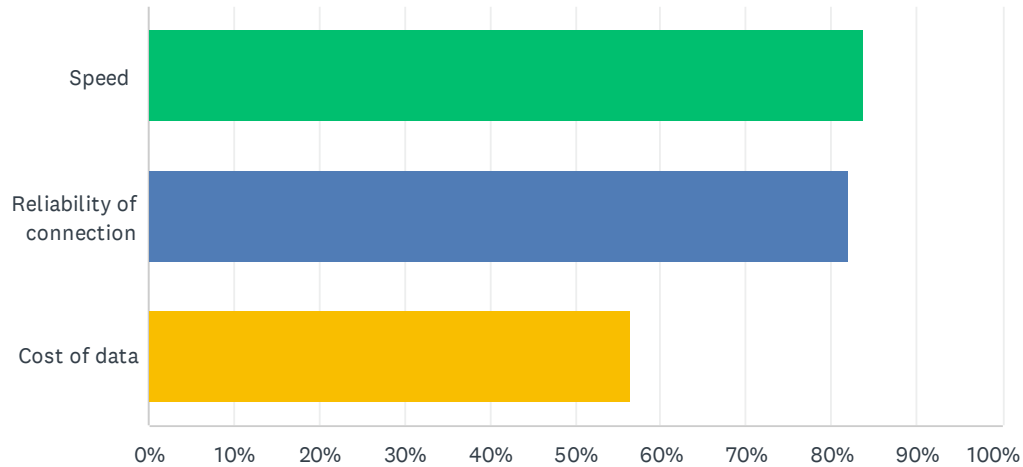
Answered: 382 Skipped: 15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No - My job requires me to leave the home	15.97%	61
Yes - But I need better internet service to support working from home	73.82%	282
I already work from home, and internet is not an issue	10.21%	39
TOTAL		382

## Q9 If you checked "need better internet service", what are the current obstacles to your working from home (check all that apply).

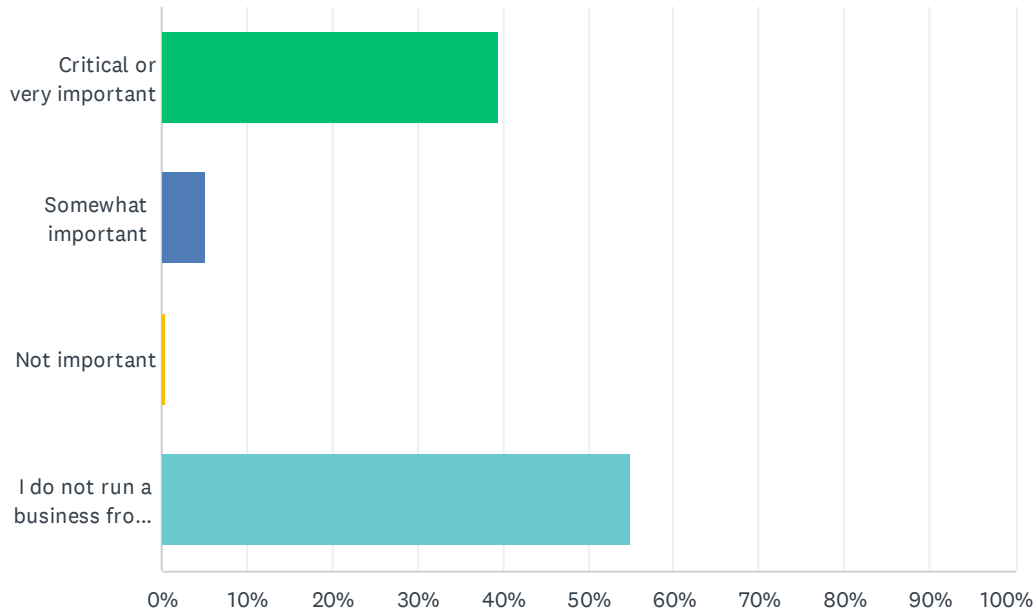
Answered: 357 Skipped: 40



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Speed	83.75%	299
Reliability of connection	82.07%	293
Cost of data	56.58%	202
Total Respondents: 357		

## Q10 If you run a business at your home, how important is internet access to your business?

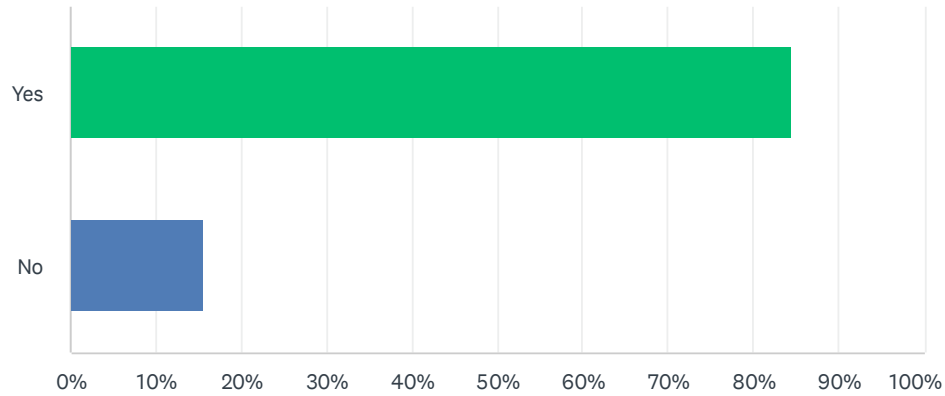
Answered: 393 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Critical or very important	39.44%	155
Somewhat important	5.09%	20
Not important	0.51%	2
I do not run a business from home	54.96%	216
TOTAL		393

## Q11 Would you use telemedicine (for example, meeting with your doctor online, monitor a medical device)?

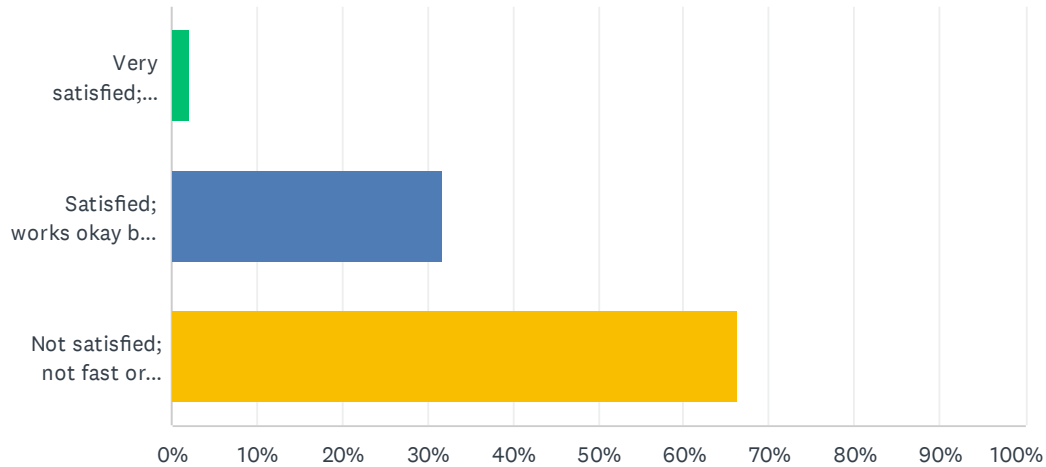
Answered: 394 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	84.52%	333
No	15.48%	61
TOTAL		394

## Q12 If you use the internet for online meetings (for example, work or social meetings; telemedicine), how satisfied are you with the experience?

Answered: 385 Skipped: 12

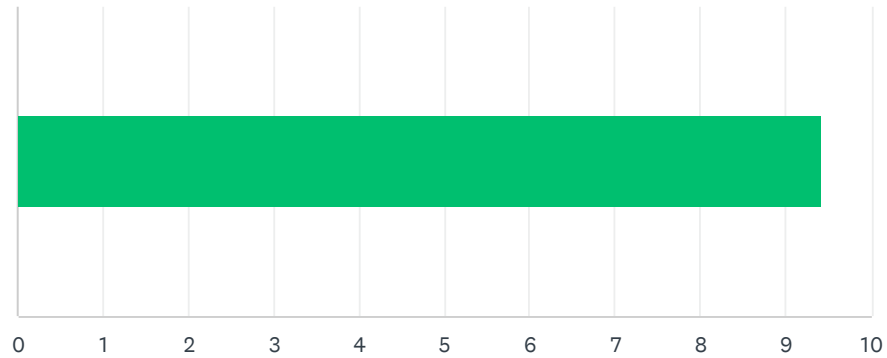


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied; works great	2.08%	8
Satisfied; works okay but could be better	31.69%	122
Not satisfied; not fast or reliable enough to take full advantage of online meetings	66.23%	255
TOTAL		385



### Q13 On a scale of 1 to 10, how important is a broadband connection at your home?

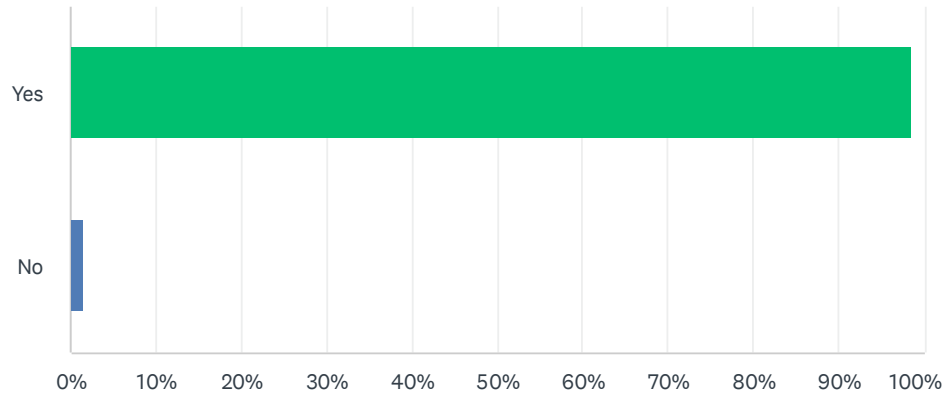
Answered: 395 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	9	3,723	395
Total Respondents: 395			

## Q14 Are you supportive of the Town of Kinnickinnic actively pursuing additional broadband options for our community?

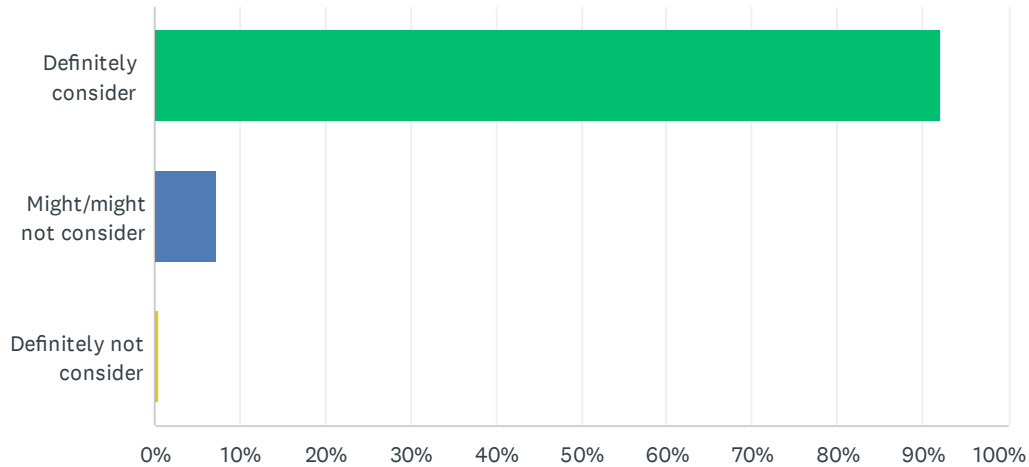
Answered: 396 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	98.48%	390
No	1.52%	6
TOTAL		396

## Q15 If a broadband provider offered new high speed internet service in our Town, how likely would you be to consider subscribing to the new service?

Answered: 395 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely consider	92.15%	364
Might/might not consider	7.34%	29
Definitely not consider	0.51%	2
TOTAL		395

## Q16 Comments:

Answered: 233   Skipped: 164

## Q17 Optional: Name, street address and email address

Answered: 235   Skipped: 162

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	97.02%	228
Company	0.00%	0
Address	96.17%	226
Address 2	0.00%	0
City/Town	0.00%	0
State/Province	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	0.00%	0
Country	0.00%	0
Email Address	89.79%	211
Phone Number	0.00%	0